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THE ARMY.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

G. O. No. 110, WASHINGTON, Nov. 19, 1873.

General Orders No. 51, June 22, 1872, from this office, are amended as follows: The National Cemetery at Beverly, N. J., will hereafter be rated as fourth-class instead of second-class.

G. C. M. O. No. 47, Washington, October 22, 1873.—Approves proceedings, etc., of a General Court-martial which convened at West Point, N. Y., October 9, 1873, and of which Captain Charles W. Raymond, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, is president, in the case Private William Gordon, U. S. Military Academy, detachment of cavalry, found guilty of "desertion."

G. C. M. O. No. 48, Washington, October 25, 1873, approves the proceedings of a General Court-martial which convened at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., September 28, of which Major James P. Roy, Sixth Infantry, is president, in the case of four enlisted men.

Clothing Allowance.—It has been decided by the Secretary of War that soldiers will be credited with the new (increased) allowance for clothing and charged according to the prices of the pattern issued; that is, the prices fixed in General Orders No. 75, of 1871, from War Department, for the clothing of the old pattern issued, and the prices fixed in General Orders No. 73, c. a., from War Department, for the clothing of the new pattern.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, for the week ending November 24.

Tuesday, November 18.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the following named officers will report by letter to the commanding general Military Division of the Atlantic for assignment to duty in that Division: Surgeon E. H. Abadie, Assistant Surgeon E. A. Koerber.

By direction of the President, Captain Clarence Mauck, Fourth Cavalry, is relieved from detail as member of the General Court-martial appointed by Special Orders No. 212, October 27, 1873, from this office, and Captain J. W. French, Twenty-fifth Infantry, is detailed in his stead.

Wednesday, November 19.

Second Lieutenant Richard E. Thompson, Sixth Infantry, will report in person without delay to the superintendent U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, for duty, to relieve First Lieutenant Edwin S. Curtis, Second Artillery.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with section 26 of the act of July 28, 1866, First Lieutenant Edwin S. Curtis, Second Artillery, is detailed as professor of military science and tactics at the Arkansas Industrial University, Little Rock, Arkansas, to take effect on his being relieved of his duties at the U. S. Military Academy by Second Lieutenant R. E. Thompson, Sixth Infantry, and will report for duty accordingly.

The resignation of First Lieutenant L. A. Chamberlain, First Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect November 17, 1873.

The leave of absence, on surgeon's certificate of disability, granted Captain Thomas L. Brent, Third Cavalry, in Special orders No. 103, May 31, 1873, from this office, is extended six months on surgeon's certificate of disability.

On the recommendation of the Paymaster-General, Major Thomas H. Halsey, paymaster (now on leave of absence), is relieved from duty in the Department of California, and will report in person to the commanding general Military Division of the Atlantic for assignment to duty.

Private Joseph J. Brown, Company E, Third Infantry, enlisted June 25, 1872; deserted July 25, 1873; enlisted in Company H, First Infantry, September 6, 1873, under the name of Joseph Bender, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company H, First Infantry.

Private Lorenzo George, Company K, Fortieth Infantry, enlisted January 18, 1867; deserted December 15, 1868; enlisted in Company G, Tenth Cavalry, September 10, 1872, under the name of William L. Green, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company G, Tenth Cavalry.

Private John G. Oglesbee, Company K, Nineteenth Infantry, enlisted December 15, 1869, deserted July 5, 1870, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company C, Sixteenth Infantry.

Private Thomas Conley, Company A, Seventh Cavalry, enlisted June 22, 1870, deserted August 3, 1872, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company C, Sixteenth Infantry.

Private Michael Hoare, Company M, Sixth Cavalry,

enlisted March 18, 1872; deserted March 1, 1873; enlisted in General Service U. S. Army, September 6, 1873, under the name of Richard O'Gorman, and assigned to Company C, Thirteenth Infantry, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company C, Thirteenth Infantry.

Discharged.—Private George Guthrie, Company B, Seventh Cavalry; Private William Harrison, Company B, Fourth Infantry.

Private Julius Krajewsky, Company F, Second Cavalry, enlisted June 25, 1866, deserted November 24, 1868, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company A, Second Cavalry.

Private Thomas H. Melville, Company D, Fifth Artillery, having reported himself as a deserter, under G. O. No. 102, October 10, 1873, from this office, and being now on service by enlistment in the Marine Corps, is discharged from the Army, to date November 4, 1873.

Private William Burr, Company H, Third Artillery, enlisted March 19, 1872, deserted September 23, 1872, who surrendered to the U. S. military authorities at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and will be forwarded, to his company at David's Island, New York harbor.

The following named enlisted men having reported themselves as deserters from the Army, under G. O. No. 102, October 10, 1873, from this office, and being now on service by enlistment in the Marine Corps, are discharged from the Army, to date November 8, 1873: Privates William H. Smith and Robert Graham, Light Battery C, Third Artillery; Private John Kearns, General Service U. S. Army.

Leave of absence for three months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted Surgeon J. H. Bill.

Thursday, November 20.

Private Louis Crawford, General Mounted Service U. S. Army, enlisted August 25, 1871; deserted January 11, 1872; enlisted May 23, 1873, in Company A, Ninth Infantry, under the name of John L. Douglass, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company A, Ninth Infantry.

The following named enlisted men, late on duty at headquarters Department of the East, will report in person without delay to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army, for duty: Privates Joseph F. Leonard and Chas. De Forest, General Service U. S. Army.

The following named enlisted men, at the late headquarters Department of the Lakes, Detroit, Mich., will report in person without delay to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army, for duty: Corporal Charles A. Rogers and Private Halvor Nelson, General Service U. S. Army.

The following named enlisted men having reported themselves as deserters from the Army, under G. O. No. 102, October 10, 1873, from this office, and being now on service by enlistment in the U. S. Navy, are discharged from the Army, to date November 4, 1873: Privates James Rogers, Company D, Fourth Artillery, and Chas. Graham, Company E, Fourth Artillery.

The superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service will cause to be prepared and forwarded under proper charge, as per telegraphic instructions of the 19th instant, from this office, all disposable colored cavalry recruits to Fort Brown, Texas, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to the Ninth Cavalry.

The Superintendent Wesley Markwood (recently appointed) will proceed to and assume charge of the National Cemetery at Beverly, N. J.

Leave of absence for one year, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted Captain William H. Brown, Fifth Cavalry, with permission to go beyond sea.

Friday, November 21.

The sum of \$103.03 will be stopped from the pay of Captain S. C. Greene, U. S. Army (retired), on account of subsistence stores purchased on credit from Major G. Bell, commissary of subsistence, and for which he has failed to pay. The amount thus stopped will be turned over to Major Bell.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the following changes in the stations and duties of hospital stewards are made: Hospital Steward Louis O. Farinthy is relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri, and will proceed without delay to West Point, N. Y., and report in person to the superintendent of the Military Academy for assignment to duty. Hospital Steward John M. McKonsie is relieved from duty at the Military Academy, to take effect on the arrival of Hospital Steward Farinthy, and will proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and report in person to the commanding general Department of the Missouri for assignment to duty. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation and the Subsistence Department commutation of rations at the usual rates.

Private Joseph Wallus, Company E, Sixteenth Infantry, enlisted November 29, 1870; deserted May 2, 1871; enlisted September 2, 1873, in Company H, Second Artillery, under the name of Joseph Walliser, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company H, Second Artillery.

Saturday, November 22.

The extension of leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant A. M. Wetherill, Sixth Infantry, in S. O. No. 16, January 20, 1873, from this office, is still further extended four months.

First Lieutenant James H. Rice, Seventeenth Infan-

try, will report by letter to Major-General Winfield S. Hancock, president of the Retiring Board, convened in New York city, by S. O. No. 326, December 13, 1873, from this office, and will hold himself in readiness to appear before the board for examination when summoned.

The leave of absence granted Captain Abram A. Harbach, Twentieth Infantry, in S. O. No. 244, November 1, 1873, from headquarters Department of Dakota, is extended four months.

Private James Purcell, Company D, Twenty-third Infantry, enlisted October 28, 1872; deserted January 21, 1873; enlisted February 8, 1873, in Company H, Twelfth Infantry, under the name of Patrick Tierney, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company H, Twelfth Infantry.

Private William Phocodovins, Company E, Twelfth Infantry, enlisted July 27, 1869; deserted February 3, 1871; enlisted December 8, 1871, in Signal Service Detachment, U. S. Army; surrendered to U. S. military authorities at Fort McHenry, Md., under G. O. No. 102, October 10, 1873, from this office, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to the Signal Service Detachment, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

Private Thomas Stutterd, Company E, Second Artillery, enlisted July 26, 1869, deserted June 20, 1871, who surrendered under G. O. No. 102, W. D., A. G. O., October 10, 1873, is restored to duty without trial and transferred to Ordnance Detachment, U. S. Army, at Benicia Arsenal, Cal.

Discharged.—Recruit Stanley G. Tattersall, General Mounted Service U. S. Army.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company D, Ninth Cavalry, from Fort Stockton, Tex., to Fort McKavett, Tex.
Company M, Ninth Cavalry, from Fort McKavett, Tex., to Fort Stockton, Tex.
Company C, Nineteenth Infantry, from Alexandria, La., to Colfax, La.
Company D, Nineteenth Infantry, from Alexandria, La., to Baton Rouge, La.
Headquarters Twenty-first Infantry, from Fort Vancouver, W. T., to Fort Klamath, Oregon.
Company B, Twenty-third Infantry, from Fort Whipple, A. T., to Camp Verde, A. T.
Company C, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from Fort Clark, Tex., to Fort Duncan, Tex.
FORT ESTABLISHED.—Colfax, La.
FORT DISCONTINUED.—Alexandria, La.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

1. During the temporary absence, on detached service, of Captain Henry A. Du Pont, Fifth Artillery, Captain H. F. Brewerton, of that regiment, is hereby assigned to the command of Battery F. (S. O. No. 61, November 21.)

2. The leave of absence for thirty days granted First Lieutenant R. E. Whitman, Third Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 141, headquarters Department of the Platte, dated September 16, 1873, and extended sixty days by Special Orders No. 52, from headquarters of the Army, dated October 6, 1873, is hereby further extended thirty days. (Ibid.)

General Sherman at Newark.—On Friday afternoon last, November 21, General Sherman arrived at Newark, N. J., to visit the Industrial Exhibition, now open there. The General was accompanied by Colonel Audenried, of his staff, and was received at the depot by an enthusiastic crowd, and was driven through the main streets, amid the cheers of the populace, to the residence of Mr. Geo. A. Halsey. Here he dined in company with a select party, including Governor Ward and Senator Frelinghuysen. About a quarter to nine o'clock he was escorted to the Industrial Exhibition, where had gathered the largest assemblage yet assembled in the building. The appearance of the General was the signal for cheering, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. After being shown through the main part of the building, he was escorted to the directors' room, where he had to go through the regulation handshaking to an immense crowd of persons. He passed the night at Mr. Halsey's, visiting the exhibition the next day.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Brig.-Gen. J. K. Barnes, Surgeon-General.

Circular Order No. 8, WASHINGTON, Nov. 18, 1873.

The following letter from the Adjutant-General's Office is published for the information and guidance of officers of the Medical Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, Nov. 1, 1873.

"To the Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

"SIR: You are respectfully informed that the Secretary of War directs that hereafter all officers of the Staff Corps, not reported on monthly post returns, will be required to forward, monthly, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, a report of their stations, the nature of their duties, and the authority placing them thereon.

"The date an officer assumes, or is relieved from, any duty should be stated for the month during which the change occurred.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
"E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General."

Each officer of the Medical Department is required to forward also to the Surgeon-General a report of station,

duties, etc., on the last day of every month, which should contain a complete narrative of the services performed during the month; and in addition to this, they are required to report to this office immediately any change in their station or duties and the authority therefor, their departure from, and return to, a station when on leave of absence, or by other cause, with the number, date, and source of order in the case. Physicians serving under contract as acting assistant surgeons and hospital stewards, first-class, are also required to forward to the Surgeon-General the reports above mentioned.

By order of the Surgeon-General.

C. H. CRANE, A. S.-G., U. S. Army.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Brigadier-General A. A. Humphreys, U. S. A., Chief of Engineers.

Torpedo Defences.—A despatch from Washington, November 22, announces that the chief of the Engineer Corps has sent orders to the various offices of the Engineer Corps in charge of the harbors along the coast, to put them in proper defence for any possible attack from the sea. The Engineers' Department will also at once prepare torpedoes, with the necessary electrical cable instruments, tackle, etc., to be planted at proper points along the coast. This action has been determined upon for some time, and the torpedoes being in readiness, this was considered a very proper time to put them in position.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdq't's Chicago, Ill.
DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brigadier-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Seventh Cavalry.—The leave of absence granted Captain Owen Hale, by S. O. No. 152, c. s., headquarters Fort Rice, D. T., was extended fifteen days, November 18.

Seventeenth Infantry.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T., November 27, for the trial of Captain F. E. Grossmann, Seventeenth Infantry. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Custer, Major J. G. Tilford, Captains V. K. Hart, Seventh Cavalry; G. B. Dandy, J. W. Scully, A. Q. M.'s U. S. Army; F. W. Benteen, G. W. Yates, Seventh Cavalry. Captain J. S. Poland, Sixth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fort Abraham Lincoln.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T., December 4. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel W. P. Carlin, Seventeenth Infantry; Captain G. W. Yates, First Lieutenants T. W. Custer, Seventh Infantry; William Badger, John Carland, Sixth Infantry; Donald McIntosh, Seventh Cavalry; Second Lieutenants Nelson Bronson, Sixth Infantry; B. H. Hodgson, G. D. Wallace, C. A. Varnum, Seventh Cavalry. Captain J. S. Poland, Sixth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fort Abercrombie.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abercrombie, D. T., December 4. The following officers of the Seventeenth Infantry were detailed for the court: Colonel T. L. Crittenden; Captains C. E. Bennett, W. M. Van Horne; First Lieutenants T. G. Troxel, W. P. Rogers; Second Lieutenant Alexander Ogle. First Lieutenant H. S. Howe, judge-advocate.

Sixth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Huston, Jr., November 19.

Twentieth Infantry.—The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant T. W. Lord, R. Q. M., Twentieth Infantry, by par. 2, S. O. No. 113, c. s., headquarters Fort Snelling, Minn., November 19 was extended to include the 31st instant.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

Medical Department.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of twenty days, was granted A. A. Surgeon T. B. Chase, U. S. Army, November 15.

Sixth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, to date from the 1st of December, has been granted Captain C. B. McLellan, Sixth Cavalry.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Leave of absence for twenty days was granted First Lieutenant M. P. Buffum, Nov. 19.

Amusements at Fort Leavenworth.—From this post a correspondent writes as follows: "Any one who proposes to break in any degree the fearful monotony of garrison life, is hailed as a public benefactor. When, therefore, a few enterprising individuals conceived the idea of organizing a dramatic association at this post, they were, figuratively speaking, received with open arms. Assistance was proffered them on every hand; from all they received encouragement and sympathy. A suitable building was given to them, and they went to work right manfully to fit it up with all the necessary paraphernalia of the theatrical art. As a result, this post now rejoices in the possession of quite a respectable looking little theatre, complete in all its parts, in which many a pleasant evening will, I think, be spent during the coming winter. The first performance was anxiously looked forward to, and fulfilled, in a great degree, the expectations of all but the hypercritical few who can never make up their minds to be quite satisfied with anything. When I speak of the merit of the performance, I speak relatively, of course. I do not mean to imply that we have unearthed, at this obscure military post, a possible rival of Booth or Forrest, a Nilsson or a Lucie in embryo. I mean simply that the association has, so far, given us some very fair entertainments, and that each performance has been an improvement on the preceding one. On last Saturday evening a version of Bluebeard was rendered in a very creditable manner indeed. Some of the performers, both male and female, acquitted themselves in a manner which would have secured them the admiring plaudits of a more pretentious audience.

The costumes on this occasion were also well gotten up, from the conventional blue beard of the gentleman who played the title role to the infinitesimal white-satin shoes of the Fatima of the night. The house has been crowded on each night of representation by audiences composed of officers, enlisted men, and citizens, their wives, children, and on one or two occasions, an undue proportion of their babies—the latter element, however, now happily excluded by the management, except when it is accompanied with the requisite amount of paregoric. Apropos of the management, there are apparent none of those disagreeable drawbacks to which amateur theatricals are peculiarly subject; the whole stage business is conducted in such an admirable manner as to have elicited special commendation.

F. L."

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

Ninth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days November 14 was granted Second Lieutenant William Abbott.

Second Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply for an extension of thirty days, November 14 was granted Captain E. R. Wells.

Corps of Engineers.—Leave of absence for thirty days November 14 was granted Captain W. A. Jones, Corps of Engineers.

North Platte.—Major C. M. Terrell, paymaster, U. S. Army, November 14 was ordered to proceed to pay the detachment at North Platte, absent on detached service, at his last payment at that station.

Eighth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply for an extension of thirty days, was granted First Lieutenant Thomas Wilhelm, adjutant, Eighth Infantry, November 18.

First Lieutenant D. T. Wells, Eighth Infantry, late A. C. S. with troops serving with the Yellowstone expedition, November 19 was directed to turn over all commissary funds in his possession to Captain A. K. Long, Commissary of Subsistence, Cheyenne.

Thirteenth Infantry.—Regimental headquarters, staff, and band, Thirteenth Infantry, at Fort Fred. Steele, November 19 were ordered to be transferred to Camp Douglas, Utah. The regimental quartermaster was directed to remain at Fort. Fred. Steele until further orders.

Fourth Infantry.—From Cheyenne, Wyoming, comes the sad intelligence that Lieutenant Carl Voitenheimer, of the Fourth Infantry, committed suicide November 24, at Fort D. A. Russell, by shooting himself through the heart. Mental depression, resulting from illness, was the cause. He leaves a wife and two children. The deceased officer entered the military service early in the war of the Rebellion as a private in the 74th Pennsylvania Volunteers, with which regiment he was engaged at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, where he was wounded, as well as in minor actions. He was promoted to lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, of which he was some time in command. After the war, in 1866, he was appointed a second lieutenant in the Fourth Infantry, and was promoted to first lieutenant November, 1868. He was a native of Germany.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. G. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.

Payment of Troops.—Major George E. Glenn, paymaster, U. S. Army, November 8 was ordered to proceed to Forts Richardson and Griffin, Texas, and Forts Sill and Gibson, I. T., to pay the troops at those posts.

Major E. D. Judd, paymaster, U. S. Army, November 13 was ordered to proceed to camp on the Sabinal and to camp near Kerrville, to pay the troops there stationed.

Fifth Cavalry.—First Lieutenant J. A. Augur, Fifth Cavalry, aide-de-camp, November 8 was directed to accompany the commanding general on a tour of inspection to Forts Richardson and Griffin, Texas, and Forts Sill and Gibson, I. T.

Medical Department.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of three months, was granted A. A. Surgeon Ira J. Culver, U. S. Army, November 8.

Tenth Infantry.—The leave of absence for seven days granted Second Lieutenant E. R. Clark, Tenth Infantry, by par. 4, S. O. No. 175, c. s., headquarters Fort McKavett, was extended thirty days, with permission to apply for an extension of sixty days, November 6.

Ninth Cavalry.—Captain Dodge's company (D), Ninth Cavalry, November 6 was relieved from duty at Fort Stockton, and ordered at once to Fort McKavett, for duty at that post. On the arrival at Fort McKavett of Company D, Ninth Cavalry, Captain Schreiner's company (M), Ninth Cavalry, will be relieved from duty at that post, and will proceed to Fort Stockton, for duty.

Tenth Cavalry.—A General Court-martial convened at Fort Sill, I. T., November 20, for the trial of First Lieutenant Charles E. Nordstrom, Tenth Cavalry. Detail for the court: Colonel William H. Wood, Eleventh Infantry; Captains Caleb H. Carlton, Theodore A. Baldwin, Thomas Little, Tenth Cavalry; First Lieutenants Warren C. Beech, Eleventh Infantry; Thomas C. Lebo, Samuel L. Woodward, adjutant, Tenth Cavalry. Captain George K. Sanderson, Eleventh Infantry, judge-advocate.

Eleventh Infantry.—The Court of Inquiry instituted per S. O. No. 166, headquarters Department of Texas, September 1, 1873, at the request of Captain George L. Choisy, Eleventh Infantry, to examine into the nature of certain imputations against that officer, contained in a communication from Lieutenant-Colonel Geo. P. Buell, Eleventh Infantry, dated June 14, 1873, addressed to the A. A.-G. Department of Texas, and to express an opinion on the merits of the case, has submitted the following opinion: "The court fully sustains the endorsement of the department commander on the letter of Lieuten-

ant-Colonel Buell, commanding the post of Fort Griffin, Texas, of June 14, 1873, and which is as follows: 'The department commander thinks the endorsement of Lieutenant-Colonel Buell on the paper marked E should have satisfied Captain Choisy. The commanding officer must be the judge of the propriety of releasing men who are confined for alleged violation of his orders. The department commander does not see any cause for Captain Choisy's feeling aggrieved; and the court considers the conduct of Captain Choisy insubordinate and reprehensible in taking further action in the premises. The court is further of opinion that there was nothing in the conduct of Captain Choisy that warranted the imputation in Lieutenant-Colonel Buell's communication of June 14, of an attempt on the part of Captain Choisy to evade obedience to orders, and nothing that was 'cunning or unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.' The proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, and the opinion expressed by it, are approved. The general commanding does not deem any further action in the matter necessary.

Second Lieutenant Calvin T. Speer, at San Antonio, was ordered November 10 to Fort McKavett, Texas, and upon arrival to report in arrest to the commanding officer—to await trial by G. C.-M.

First Lieutenant Warren C. Beach, Company B, has been promoted (October 31) to be captain, vice Chipman, promoted to major Third Infantry, which carries him to Company D, both of Fort Richardson; Second Lieutenant Daniel B. Taylor, Company G, at Fort Griffin, to be first lieutenant, vice Beach, promoted, which carries him to Company B, at Fort Richardson.

Twenty-fourth Infantry.—Captain J. W. Clous, Twenty-fourth Infantry, First Lieutenant Gustavus Valois, Ninth Cavalry, and Second Lieutenant B. S. Humphrey, Ninth Cavalry, November 11 were relieved as members of the G. C.-M. constituted in S. O. No. 201, c. s., from department headquarters, and First Lieutenant Henry F. Leggett, Twenty-fourth Infantry, and Second Lieutenant Morris C. Wessels, Twenty-fourth Infantry, were detailed as additional members of the G. C.-M.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted First Lieutenant Thomas E. Merritt, November 13.

Twenty-fifth Infantry.—Company A November 10 was transferred from Fort Clark to Fort Duncan, Texas.

Fort Sill.—The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, November 27, sent the following telegram to Mr. Haworth, the United States Indian agent at Fort Sill, I. T.: "Issue no more annuities to the Comanches. The demand for the five raiders and murderers is not remitted, and if not complied with in ten days after the receipt of this despatch, you will stop their rations entirely; and if they still refuse, they will be handed over to the military. If you are unable to act as agent during military operations, you can be relieved temporarily on application. Assure the Indians that the Government is in earnest, and that arrangements are already being made to compel the Comanches to do right."

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Hdq't's, Louisville, Ky.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

Eighteenth Infantry.—The non-commissioned officers and privates of Company K, at a meeting held at Newberry, C. H., S. C., November 15, 1873, unanimously passed resolutions with reference to the death of Mrs. Captain James Stewart, who departed this life on Nov. 15, 1873, in which they say: "We tender our heartfelt sympathy to Captain James Stewart and family upon the bereavement and affliction brought upon them by the death of that amiable and much esteemed lady, a tender mother, a most affectionate wife, and soldiers' friend; all gentleness and charity. She was of a quiet and unobtrusive disposition, and as her life was blameless and edifying, so was its close serene and beautiful. Having faithfully fulfilled all the duties of a Christian friend, wife and mother, she calmly died, regretted by her many friends. The memory of her many virtues is the best legacy she could leave to her children."

Second Infantry.—A General Court-martial was appointed to convene at Chattanooga, Tenn., November 24. The following officers of this regiment were detailed for the court: Captain H. C. Cook; First Lieutenants Thos. Drury, James Ulio; Second Lieutenants W. V. Wolfe, A. McIntyre, F. O. Briggs. Second Lieutenant John K. Waring, judge-advocate of the court.

Leave of absence for twenty days, with permission to leave the limits of the department, was granted Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. English, November 17.

Commissary Department.—Colonel Charles L. Kilburn, A. C.-G. S. U. S. Army, November 20 was directed to relieve major Thomas J. Haines, C. S. U. S. Army, who, upon being relieved was ordered to comply with par. 3, S. O. No. 215, W. D., A.-G. O., c. s.

Major T. J. Haines, C. S. of the department, November 15 was directed to accompany the major-general commanding to Lebanon and Lancaster, Ky.

Judge-Advocate's Department.—Major Asa Bird Gardner, J.-A. U. S. Army, November 15 was directed to proceed to Frankfort, Ky., on public business, and return upon its completion to Louisville.

Medical Department.—Assistant Surgeon W. D. Wolverton, U. S. Army, November 21 was ordered to Nashville, Tenn., for duty, relieving Assistant Surgeon D. G. Caldwell, U. S. Army. Assistant Surgeon Charles R. Greenleaf, U. S. Army, November 21 was ordered to Huntsville, Ala., for duty, relieving Assistant Surgeon M. K. Taylor, U. S. Army. On being relieved from duty in this department, Assistant Surgeons D. G. Caldwell and M. K. Taylor, U. S. Army, were directed to comply with the requirements of par. 3, S. O. No. 227, W. D., A.-G. O., c. s.

Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to leave the limits of the department, and to apply to head-

quarters Division of the South for an extension of thirty days, was granted. Assistant Surgeon Charles Styer, U. S. Army, November 19.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, Mississippi City, Miss.

First Artillery.—Company M, First Artillery, November 19 was relieved from further duty at Fort Jefferson, Fla., and ordered to Barrancas Barracks, Fla.

Payment of Troops.—Major George L. Fobiger, paymaster, U. S. Army, chief paymaster of the department, November 17 was ordered to proceed to Little Rock, Ark., for the purpose of paying the troops at that post. After which he will return to his station in New Orleans.

Baton Rouge.—Captain W. W. Sanders, Sixth Infantry, A. A. I. G., November 17 was directed to proceed to Baton Rouge, La., and make an inspection of the troops at that point, and also of the military prisoners confined in the penitentiary. After performing this duty, Captain Sanders will rejoin his station in New Orleans.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, New York.

The following gentlemen were registered in the Army and Navy Club, for the two weeks ending November 23: G. R. Davidson, England; Hon. David Edes, Washington; Hon. Chas. E. Flandraw, St. Paul, Minn.; E. T. Blake, Esq., Paris; Chas. Dwight, Boston; Major Isaac Moses, Mexico; Daniel Dougherty, Esq., Philadelphia; James Oakes, Esq., Boston; E. W. Stone, Twenty-first Infantry; Captain A. G. Robinson, U. S. Army; James De Kay, Esq., Wisconsin; F. O. Norton, Highland Falls; R. L. Livingston, General R. C. Drum, U. S. Army; Alexander Moore, Third Cavalry; General John Love; Colonel H. D. Jarvis; General W. B. Franklin, Hartford; Dexter B. Ward, General Hiram Brown, Hon. David Edes, Major R. C. Parker, Major M. H. Stacey, G. R. Davidson, E. S. Blake, Charles Dwight, James Oakes, Esq., Major Ogley, General Thomas M. Vincent, General G. P. Shine, Lieutenant-Colonel Parnell, Major Frank C. Brown, General M. R. Morgan, Thomas N. Thorne, General T. F. Robdenbough, General C. W. Darling, General Smith, Colonel Macias, D. Taylor, S. D. Lawrence, Gilead A. Smith, R. De Trobriand, W. F. Reynolds, R. M. Berry, Captain C. B. Phillips, L. Garey, Colonel G. E. Church, Lieutenant-Commander G. E. Chadwick, General Benjamin Alvord, W. W. Caruth, Oscar G. Sawyer, Sidney de Kay.

Officers Registered.—The following officers were registered at headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, for the week ending November 25, 1873: Captain Chas. B. Phillips, Corps of Engineers; First Lieutenant J. A. Fessenden, Fifth Artillery; Brigadier-General B. Alvord, P. M. G. U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant J. B. Lookwood, Twenty-third Infantry; First Lieutenant Thomas H. Fisher, Twenty-second Infantry; Surgeon A. B. Haason, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant O. E. Michaelis, Ordnance Corps; Colonel N. A. Mills, Fifth Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Wessells, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Edward Davis, Third Artillery; Second Lieutenant S. E. Blunt, Thirteenth Infantry; Colonel D. McClure, Pay Department; Major M. A. Reno, Seventh Cavalry.

Fort Warren.—Hospital Steward J. H. Sanborn, U. S. Army, on temporary duty at Fort Warren, Mass., November 19 was ordered to Fort Adams, R. I., for duty at that post.

Third Artillery.—The leave of absence for seven days granted First Lieutenant Robert D. Potts, in S. O. Nos. 102 and 104, c. s., from the post of Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H., was extended ten days, November 19.

I. Before a General Court-martial which convened at New York city, and of which Major Robert W. Howard, Third Artillery, is president, the following officers were arraigned and tried, and found guilty of the offences specified: Second Lieutenant John Pope, Jr., First Artillery. Charge—"Neglect of duty, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline"—in failing to turn over quartermaster's property for which he was responsible. Sentence, "To be suspended from rank for the period of six months, remaining at the station of his company; forfeiting to the United States fifty dollars of his pay per month for the same period." Second Lieutenant Frank A. Page, U. S. Army (retired). Charge—"Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman"—in failing to pay a bill for commissary stores which had been sent to him receipted. Found "Not guilty, but guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." Sentence, "To forfeit to the United States his monthly pay for three months, excepting fifty dollars per month, and to be admonished in orders by the department commander." "The court is thus lenient on account of the mutilated condition of this officer (from wounds), as he appeared before it."

II. The following are the remarks of the reviewing authority in the case of Second Lieutenant John Pope, Jr., First Artillery. The accused has been tried for a neglect of duty in failing to transfer certain public property, for which he was responsible, upon proper invoices and receipts, and in entirely failing to transfer certain other public property. He was not charged with its misapplication. The loss to the Government has, in point of fact, been shown to be very inconsiderable, the most valuable part of the property having been taken up by the successor of the accused as acting assistant quartermaster. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the accused neglected to transfer any property in the manner required by the regulations of the service, and the special orders given him, thus exposing the Government to what, but for the acts of others, might have proved a serious loss. The evidence adduced fails to relieve him from culpability for this neglect of duty. The proceedings, findings, and sentence are approved, and the sentence will be duly executed.

III. In the case of Second Lieutenant Frank A. Page, the following is the decision of the reviewing authority: The 7th specification charges the accused with having

knowingly signed a false certificate. It seems that the certificate used was not of the usual form, but contained additional words not required by par. 1239, Revised Army Regulations, by which the subscriber certified that he had paid the account. Although the simple fact that the form is unusual would in no wise exonerate an officer from the guilt of falsely signing it, that is to say, knowing it to be false, yet it is not impossible that the unusual form may mislead him into inadvertently making a misstatement. The action of the court seems to have been based upon this view, and it is approved, the circumstances of the case leading to this conclusion. The findings to the first six specifications explain themselves. An officer cannot relieve himself from the responsibility for the non-payment of an indebtedness such as that incurred by the accused by showing that it was not his intention to evade the payment. If he avails himself of the privileges granted him by the Government, he assumes the obligation of doing so in the manner which the Government prescribes. The proceedings, findings, and sentence are approved. The sentence will be duly carried into effect. Lieutenant Page has already been released from arrest.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-Gen J. M. Schofield: Headquarters, San Francisco, Cal.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Presidio.—A General Court-martial met at Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., November 18, for the trial of Hospital Steward James Brett, U. S. Army, and such other prisoners as might be properly brought before it. Major W. B. Royall, Fifth Cavalry, Surgeon James C. McKee, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the Fourth Artillery were detailed for the court: Colonel Horace Brooks; Captains C. B. Throckmorton, H. C. Hasbrouck; First Lieutenants Walter Howr, Sydney W. Taylor. First Lieutenant Harry R. Anderson, judge-advocate.

Camp McDermitt.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Camp McDermitt, Nev., Nov. 19. Detail for the court: Major George A. Gordon, Fifth Cavalry; Captains Henry Wagner, Camillo C. Carr, First Cavalry; First Lieutenant George G. Greenough, Fourth Artillery; Second Lieutenants Patrick H. Hogan, First Cavalry; George A. Jaeger, Twelfth Infantry. First Lieutenant A. G. Forse, First Cavalry, judge-advocate.

Camp Gaston.—A General Court-martial met at Camp Gaston, Cal., November 19. Detail for the court: Major Henry R. Mizner, Twelfth Infantry; Captains John Egan, E. A. Bancroft, First Lieutenant Charles S. Smith, Second Lieutenants Albert S. Cummins, Fourth Artillery; E. T. Howard, Twelfth Infantry. First Lieutenant William Everett, Fourth Artillery, judge-advocate.

So much of par. 1, S. O. No. 134, c. s., from department headquarters, as directed A. A. Surgeon J. T. Pindall, U. S. Army, to relieve A. A. Surgeon A. Farnsworth, U. S. Army, at Camp Gaston, Cal., November 12 was revoked. A. A. Surgeon Pindall was directed to report in person to the commanding officer of Fort Hall, Idaho, to relieve A. A. Surgeon H. W. Boone, U. S. Army, of his duties at that post, who, on being relieved by A. A. Surgeon Pindall, will report to the medical director at these headquarters. A. A. Surgeon T. T. Cabanis, U. S. Army, San Francisco, November 13 was directed to report in person to the commanding officer of Camp Gaston, Cal., to relieve A. A. Surgeon A. Farnsworth, U. S. Army, of his duties at that post, who, on being relieved, was directed to report in person to the medical director in San Francisco for the annulment of his contract.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Colonel Jeff. C. Davis: Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.

Payment of Troops.—Major and Paymaster James P. Canby October 29 was directed to pay the troops to include the muster of October 31, at Fort Klamath, Oregon; Camp Bidwell, Cal.; Camps Warner and Harney, Oregon, and Fort Boise, I. T., in the order named. On completion of this duty Major Canby will rejoin his station.

Examining Board.—Major Edwin C. Mason, Twenty-first Infantry, November 10 was detailed as a member of the board of officers convened by par. 8, S. O. No. 117, c. s., to examine candidates selected for appointment in the Army of the United States, vice Colonel Robert S. Granger, Twenty-first Infantry, absent on sick leave.

Twenty-first Infantry.—The headquarters of the Twenty-first Infantry, at Fort Vancouver, W. T., November 8 were temporarily established under command of the lieutenant-colonel at Fort Klamath, Oregon. The band remained at Fort Vancouver.

Capt. Jack's Body.—Our readers at Fort Klamath will be interested in the following story, which is going the rounds of the press: "On Sunday, the 2d inst., several teams loaded with Government stores from Fort Klamath, arrived at Roseburg, Oregon, and unloaded at the depot of the Oregon and California Railroad. Shortly after one of the teamsters went to the office of the *Plaindealer*, and privately invited the editor to walk with him to the depot. The editor went, and this is what he says he saw and heard: 'When we arrived there he pointed to a cask, which, on close inspection, proved to be nothing more than a common whiskey barrel, marked Society of Natural History, Washington, D. C. We then wanted to know what was the meaning of this, when our friend informed us that the barrel contained nothing less than the body of the Modoc chief, preserved in spirits, and was being shipped this way ostensibly as Government stores, to prevent comment by newspapers and the public in general. Our informant then proceeded to give the whole story, as he was present at the execution, and had remained at Fort Klamath from the time the Indians were hung until he left for Roseburg with his team and horrible freight. It appears Jack's body was never buried after the head was severed from the trunk. In fact, if it had not been for the superstitious fears of the Indians

concerning their dead relatives, which causes them to very often risk their lives in time of war to carry their slain from their field of battle, and apprehensions entertained as to how it would be received by the public mind, the body would never have been buried. As it was, the Modoc chief only rested in his grave about ten or twelve hours. It was dug up before midnight on the day he was hung, by soldiers detailed for that purpose, who filled up the grave and left it as though it had not been disturbed. The body was immediately carried to the fort and the head taken off and put up for shipment east. A few days after this the remainder of the body was placed in the barrel, as already stated, and started for the same city for which the head was intended. We have reason to believe the story as told us is true in every particular. We have since questioned other teamsters who came from Fort Klamath with our informant, and they corroborate the story, and say it had become a subject of common conversation when they left. We did not see the body, nor would we have felt any better had we been allowed to contemplate the horrible spectacle of the headless body of a dead Indian preserved in alcohol. But we have no right to think it was not there.'"

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Brigadier-General George Crook: Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.

Fifth Cavalry.—On the 29th of October the troops under the command of Captain W. H. Brown, Fifth Cavalry, attacked a Ranchoero, in Tonto Basin, belonging to Delchey's band, killing twenty-nine warriors and capturing nine prisoners; among the killed was Delchey's brother. These Indians are supposed to have been the same who a short time ago attacked a party of miners in the Pinal mountains, as among their effects was found a complete miner's outfit and clothing. Our Indian troops as well as the white soldiers behaved splendidly, and although encountering severe hardships and suffering from cold and hunger, cheerfully did the duty required of them. Lieutenant E. D. Thomas, Fifth Cavalry, after an arduous scout of forty-one days returned to Fort Whipple, A. T., November 4, having scouted the mountains thoroughly south of Prescott without finding any Indian signs whatever.

OUR Naval Bureau of Ordnance has just issued a translation from the French, of a description of the Reffye gun, adopted by the French Government after an extended series of trials at Calais and Bourges, in competition with the Woolwich, Vavasseur and Krupp systems. It is of interest to the Navy, says the preface, "as the Bureau purposes introducing a bronze breech-loading 3-inch rifled howitzer, using a metallic cartridge case. Several important modifications have been made in the details of the screw breech, by increasing the length of the screw, adopting a better form of thread, and the insertion of a steel thimble, containing the screw-box, in the rear of the gun. Also, by diminishing the excessive twist, and substituting two leaden rings (one in front to guide, the rear one to take the grooves and close off the windage), for the leaden jackets of the projectile."

The gun introduced into the French service is a bronze breech-loading field piece of the calibre 7. It will throw a shell weighing seven kilogrammes 5,000 metres. It combines the lightness and facility of manipulation of a field piece, with the accuracy and range of siege artillery of medium calibre. Although bronze has been chosen as the regulation material, as a metal more easily worked, than steel, the manufacturers who prefer steel have been allowed to use it, and several guns of this metal have been produced at Rive de Gier on the plans of M. DE REFFYE. The standard for the bronze is 100 parts of copper to 11 of tin. The new gun has the advantage over the old calibre 12 gun of a flatter trajectory—the angle of fall in the former, at short range, being but 9 deg., and in the latter 17 deg. 2 min. This result is due (1) to the suppression of windage; (2) the complete and constant grip of the projectile; (3) the elongation of the charge; and as a sequence, loading at the breech, and enclosing the charge in a metallic case. The rifling is the polygroove, having a twist of one turn in one metre 85 cen. When any defect is shown in the bronze at the proof-firing, a tube, cold drawn, of hammer-hardened yellow brass, is inserted in the bore, the breech of the gun being first heated so as to grasp the tube tightly as it shrinks in cooling. The breech is closed by a slotted screw, a method known as the French closure—*fermeture Française*—which the translator of this description of the Reffye gun shows is an American device, and was first applied to a 12 pounder gun at the Washington Navy-yard in 1851. In its first conception it was however too imperfect to be used, and it owes its successful development to the persevering efforts of the French. For fuller description of the gun, and of its ammunition and projectiles, we refer our artillery readers to the ordnance pamphlet.

The Ordnance Department are busied, among other things, in changing the 15-inch gun carriages from the old pattern to the new. The Engineers are at work putting our forts in defensive order. Lieutenant-General SHERIDAN has been called to Washington in consultation in regard to Cuban affairs. All these signs are warlike; but the latest news, at the time we go to press, is to the effect that Spain has decided to yield to the demands of our Government, and is to restore the *Virginias*. What reparation is to be made for the slaughter of her crew is not stated, nor what guarantee that the orders of the home Government will be carried out in Cuba.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE Gettysburg arrived at Boston on the 24th inst. Work is being hurried up on the *Shawmut*, at Washington.

THE Monongahela sailed Nov. 12 from Newport for Rio de Janeiro.

THE Fortune, under Lieutenant-Commander F. M. Green, is going to Key West.

THE Worcester, 2d rate (15), flagship of the North Atlantic station, arrived at Key West, Fla., November 23.

THE Ossipee, 3d rate (8), from Newport, R. I., arrived at Norfolk, Va., November 20. On November 24 she arrived off Fort Monroe, conveying the monitor *Mahopac*.

THE Supply, which returned to New York on the 22d inst., has been ordered out of commission; but she is to be kept in readiness to be recommissioned at a moment's notice.

ORDERS have been given to fit out the *Macedonian* and *Savannah* at Norfolk, both of which are to be sent to Key West—the first as an ordnance storeship, the second as a general storeship.

WILLIAM TAIT, a machinist, engaged at work on the *Savannah* at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, was instantly killed on Saturday, November 23, by a portion of the machinery falling upon and crushing him.

CHIEF Engineer W. H. Shock, U. S. Navy, who has been in Europe for the past six months on special duty connected with the Navy Department, left Liverpool for New York in the steamer *Scotta* on the 15th inst.

RUMOR has it that Rear-Admiral A. L. Case will be recalled from the European Station to take command of our force in the Gulf, and that some of the vessels of that station, as well as of the Brazil Station, are under orders to Key West.

THE tug Mayflower will be in command of Lieutenant-Commander N. Mayo Dyer, who distinguished himself in the harbor of Mobile during the late war; also in the Pacific, on which latter occasion he hazarded his own life to save a seaman who had fallen overboard.

It is said the large steam yacht *America*, lately purchased by the Navy Department, cost \$200,000. Mr. Steers, the builder of the vessel, is reported to have guaranteed that she could travel from Key West to Havana, seventy-one miles, in four hours.

CORRESPONDENCE from Japan, dated at Yokohama, on the 21st of October, reports: The *Lackawanna* left that port on the 14th instant for Shanghai, and the *Saco*, *Palos*, *Monocacy* and *Ashuelot* were still at Yokohama, and the *Hartford* and *Yantic* at Nagasaki.

COMMODORE J. H. STRONG, with his Secretary, arrived at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 25, to assume command of the South Atlantic Station. Rear-Admiral W. Rogers Taylor was to have returned to the United States by the same steamer that brought out Commodore Strong.

OUR consul at Santiago de Cuba reports, under date of the 18th, that the total number of executions of persons from the *Virginius* was fifty-three, and that there had been no executions since the 8th inst. The statements published respecting fifty-seven additional executions prove untrue.

A DESPATCH from Washington, November 24, says: Lieutenant-Colonel James Forney, of the Marine Corps, applied for permission to take command of a battalion of marines. A previous despatch reported that three iron-clads will be ready for sea in ten days, and four or five more will be ready in six weeks.

The despatch boat *Pinta* was completed at the Philadelphia Navy-yard on November 23. The following is a list of her officers: Lieutenant-Commander H. H. Goringe, commanding; Lieutenant S. Schroeder, executive officer; Assistant Paymaster Z. T. Brown, Second Assistant Engineer E. F. McElwell, Gunner C. C. Neill.

THE Washington Chronicle, of Nov. 23, reported that the ordnance bureau ordered the immediate construction of thirty thousand shell of various sizes, and two schooners were loading at the ordnance dock with solid shot and shell and fixed ammunition for the Philadelphia Navy-yard, and for the last two days not only the Navy-yard carts, but as many as could be hired, have been employed in hauling oiled shot and shell to the depots for transportation to the Eastern Navy-yards.

A DESPATCH from Portsmouth, N. H., says: Work at the Kittery Navy-yard is at a low ebb, and the station seems in a state of repose contrasted with the appearance of the other northern yards. It is thought that a ship or two could be towed to Portsmouth, where there are so many unemployed facilities, and fitted for sea in less time than would be required to await their turn at some other yard, as there is nothing likely to be sent to sea from that station for a great length of time.

It is reported that Mr. John Roach has received a contract for building engines and machinery for the new sloop-of-war at the Brooklyn Navy-yard. He was the lowest bidder at \$630,000. Mr. Roach also has contracts for two new sloop-of-war at \$580,000; engines and machinery for the *Tennessee*, \$300,000; repair of four monitors (*Pascata*, *Jason*, *Wyandotte* and *Nahant*), at \$720,000; engine for a torpedo boat at \$200,000 or \$300,000; two engines at \$360,000. He has, out of the \$3,200,000 appropriated for the new sloop-of-war, contracts to the amount of \$295,000.

ADVICES from Boston, November 24, report the following as a list of the workmen employed in the Charles-

town Navy-yard: In the Construction Department, 1,078 men; in the Civil Engineers' Department, 272 men; in the Steam Engineers' Department, 361 men; in the Equipment Department, 298 men; in the Ordnance Department, 87 men; in the Provisions and Clothes Department, 9 men. Total, 2,105. On Saturday, November 23, 100 new employees in the dry dock were discharged, while an equal force was added to the Steam Engineers' Department. The *Franklin* was floated out of the dry dock on Saturday, November 23, 1873, and anchored at the lower shear wharf. Piping for her new boilers, rigging, and equipment, with arms and stores, can all be done inside of two weeks. The orders for fitting out the *Franklin* were to have her in commission in two weeks, and ready for sea in three, and in accordance therewith, her deck, above and below, present a scene of activity which has not been witnessed at the Charlestown yard for many a day. The boilers have been placed inside the *Brooklyn*, but all the piping remains to be done, and she is yet to be rigged. This vessel, it is now thought, can be finished in a week after the *Franklin* leaves. Captain Preble, commanding naval rendezvous at Boston, has issued a circular to enlist seamen of all grades, and a large number has been thus recruited, consisting mostly of landsmen.

THE Washington Chronicle says a large number of clerks and others at the different Navy-yards, a few months since, made up and placed in the hands of two or three agents claims for back-pay in lieu of rations. This would be a matter of thirty cents a day or \$110 per annum, and to a few who have held positions in Navy-yards for twenty years and upwards the total would appear quite handsome; but the statutes developed the fact that these men must show that they are really sailors by actual enlistment, and attached to an ordinary, to entitle them to these rations or an equivalent in money; and now another effort is being made to secure the desired end by obtaining a decision setting forth that they are sailors, and that their claims are consequently valid and should be allowed. If they succeed, it will take out of the Treasury from eighty to one hundred and twenty thousand dollars to pay these claims; and of this the claimants, it is understood, are willing to pay one-half to their attorneys, if successful.

THE results of the soundings off and on the coast from Cape Flattery to San Francisco, made by the *Tuscarora*, under Commander Belknap, possess much interest to the general as well as the scientific reader. Eight lines were run and eighty-three casts were made, some of them 200 miles off the coast. The deepest cast was 2,443 fathoms, at which depth soundings with wire were easily made. A depth of 3,000 fathoms was sought for the purpose of testing the Thompson machine, but could not be found. Some of the soundings were made with piano wire, and others with carbolized 1 1/4 inch hemp-line, 1 1/4 inch manilla whale-line, and 9-thread albacore line. Off Point Trinidad and westward of Crescent City, a submarine mountain was discovered, 140 miles from land, about 4,200 feet in height. The apex is about 1,000 fathoms from the surface, and its base from 1,500 to 1,600 fathoms. The sinker generally used for the piano wire No. 22 is an 8-inch shot weighing 55 lbs.; for the carbolized hemp 1 1/4 inch, an 11-inch shot weighing 166 lbs. To the latter was sometimes added other sinkers, bringing the weight up to 300 and 400 lbs.

DR. ISAAC T. COATES, formerly of the U. S. Navy, and now medical director of a Peruvian railroad, made the first authentic scientific ascent of the volcano of Misti, thirty-six miles from Arequipa, Peru, last September. Mr. Llewellyn, a civil engineer on the Arequipa and Puno railroad, had measured its altitude trigonometrically, giving as the result 19,538 feet. As the geographers have always stated it to be 20,300, the fifth in height in the world, Dr. Coates determined to test both by making an ascent with a barometer. Accordingly he procured a troop of mules, three guides, and an arriero (driver), and started. The first night they slept at the foot of the volcano, and at 7:40 A. M. began the ascent, which was not accomplished until 5:30 P. M. The barometer made the altitude 18,600, a difference of only sixty-two feet. The doctor entered the crater, which is extinct, and saw many evidences of former activity. A severe wind and snow storm abbreviated his stay, and compelled an immediate descent, which was made in two hours. Two points were settled by this bold undertaking: the exact altitude of the Misti, and that it is not smoking, as many of the inhabitants of the country believe. Dr. Coates is a native of Pennsylvania.

THE following letter has been addressed by the directors of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company to Captain C. H. B. Caldwell, commanding U. S. steamer *Lancaster* coast Brazil:

PACIFIC STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIVERPOOL, Oct. 28, 1873.

Captain C. H. B. Caldwell, Commanding U. S. Steamship *Lancaster*.

SIR: I am instructed by the Directors to tender to you and your officers their sincere thanks for the prompt and invaluable assistance which you generously tendered to the company's mail steamer *Cotopaxi*, on the unfortunate occasion of her stranding on Itaparica Reef, on the night of 25th September. The directors have much satisfaction in thus rendering the only tribute in their power to services which they well know have already been repeatedly afforded by vessels of the U. S. Navy to save life and property in many parts of the world.

I am, dear sir, your most ob't serv't,
W. J. CONLEY, Sec'y.

THE steam tug Rescue left Washington Navy-yard on November 23 with 150 barrels of powder for Philadelphia. The steamer *Fortune*, at the same yard, after receiving an overhauling and having her torpedo spar taken out, was launched the early part of this week. An extra force is engaged on the *Shawmut*, and extra time is being made by the men at work on the machinery. A new suit of sails is being made for her, and she will be fitted for sea at the earliest possible moment. On the receiving ship *Relief* there are a number of seamen,

but the work of recruiting is rather slow, about ten or a dozen being enlisted weekly.

THE following despatch was received at the Navy Department, November 22, from Commodore Reedy Warden:

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE,
NEW LONDON, CONN., Nov. 20, 1873.

SIR: I deem it of sufficient significance to inform the Department that last night about nine o'clock, two men, representing themselves as naval engineers, appeared at this station and directed the watchman on duty to furnish them with a lamp, as they wished to visit the U. S. steamship *Dictator*; but, not having a pass from the commandant, they were refused permission and referred to the boatswain, living at the station. About an hour later they reappeared with a light and with the evident intention of going on board the *Dictator*. Upon being stopped they fired upon the watchman and ran. Their fire was returned by the watchman, who pursued them but without effecting their arrest.

AT the Philadelphia Navy-yard the double-turretted monitor *Terror* on Nov. 23, was having the heavy wooden beams under her turrets replaced by wrought iron stanchions. Her guns are all in good condition and her engines were being thoroughly overhauled. The monitor *Ajazz* was still on the dry dock, having her hull cleaned and painted. The monitor *Manhattan*, Commander Yates, was ready for sea Nov. 21, and was to have dropped into the stream at sundown for a start on Nov. 23, but about four o'clock a very serious leak was discovered about two feet below the water line, amidships, on the starboard side. The wardroom and the officers' quarters were all wet, and for a few minutes serious fears were entertained that the *Manhattan* would go down at the side of the South Wharf. An examination of the leak demonstrated that it was not very serious. A large gang of workmen were at once detailed to lighten the monitor. A large part of the stores and provisions and about fifty tons of coal were removed to the wharf. The work continued all night. The leak, which arose from the parting of several rivets, was repaired at once so that she was enabled to leave the yard on the afternoon of Nov. 23, and dropped down stream to Fort Mifflin, where she took on board ammunition. The *Powhatan* left at noon of the same date and stopped at Fort Mifflin for her supply. The discovery of the leak was quite fortunate, as the results, had the monitor encountered a heavy gale outside, might have been very serious and resulted in the loss of the craft with all on board. The following is a list of her officers as far as we could learn: Commander, A. R. Yates, commanding; Lieutenants, Thomas Perry and Isaac Hazlett; Masters, N. E. Mason and N. R. Niles; Assistant Surgeon, E. Z. Darr; Assistant Paymaster, George A. Deering; First Assistant Engineers, John Lowe and Hiram Parker; Second Assistant Engineer, John T. Smith.

A CORRESPONDENT writing to *Broad Arrow* from the British screw corvette *Scout* at Coquimbo, Chili, on September 4, says: "A very pleasant game at 'base ball' was played between the officers of this ship and the officers of the U. S. ships *Pensacola* (flag) and *Omaha*, resulting in a victory for the latter. However, nobody expected otherwise, as 'base ball' is the national game of the Americans, and only one of the *Scout's* team (Mr. Wellings) had ever played the game before. The players were—His Majesty's steamer *Scout*—Mr. R. H. Wellings (captain), Lieutenant Clutterbuck, Lieutenant Ford, R. M. L. L., Messrs. Sandiford, Hume, Ledgard, Trower, Fraser, and Tottenham. U. S. ships *Pensacola* and *Omaha*—Mr. Febiger (captain), Lieutenant-Commander Nichols, Lieutenant Ackley, Messrs. Hadden, Schwenk, Barber, Miles, McCrea, and Steedman. The Americans made thirty-seven and the English twelve. The day was fine, and there was a fair sprinkling of spectators. Admiral Steedman, of the *Pensacola*, kindly lent his band for the occasion, and a very nice programme was played. On the 29th of August (two days after the 'base ball' match) a cricket match was played, which resulted in an easy victory for the *Scout's* team. The Americans first went to the bat, but were soon out for eighteen runs; the *Scout's* then went in, and, after about three hours, were put out for 181. Time for lunch was now called, and Captain Carter, of the *Scout*, and the eleven, entertained their antagonists in a tent which had been erected for the occasion, the *Pensacola's* band playing outside. After various toasts, the Americans again took possession of the bat, and we all put out for twenty-four, the *Scout* thus winning by an innings and 138 runs. The fielding of the Americans was very good indeed, and their throwing in was almost perfect. The players were as follows: His Majesty's steamer *Scout*—Lieutenant Ford, R. M. L. L., Lieutenant Clutterbuck, Messrs. R. A. Wellings, Sandiford, Hume, Fraser, Ledgard, Tyacke, Trower, Dr. Jennings, and Corporal Wheeler. U. S. ships *Pensacola* and *Omaha*—Lieutenant-Commander Nichols, Lieutenant Ackley, Messrs. Hadden, Schwenk, Miles, McCrea, Steedman, Barber, Febiger, McConnell, and Hotchins. Two very pleasant days were spent, each of the competitors winning their own national game."

A WASHINGTON despatch dated November 20 says: "The U. S. steamer *Tuscarora*, which has been for the last five months engaged in the waters of the Pacific Ocean in making soundings for telegraphic purposes, today landed all of her sounding apparatus at the Mare Island Navy-yard and commenced taking on board her armament, under instructions that there should be no delay. Commander Belknap telegraphed that it would not require more than forty-eight hours to carry out instructions of the department. The destination of the *Tuscarora* is the Asiatic station. She is directed to report to Rear-Admiral Jenkins, commanding the station who will execute the despatches sent to him confidentially.

DURING the visit of Secretary Robeson, on November 21, at League Island, the U. S. flag was hoisted on the island for the first time and saluted with twenty-one guns, the band in attendance playing patriotic airs.

The flag-staff is fine and showy, 182 feet high, surmounted by the usual balls, cardinal points, etc., and a steam frigate for a vane. It shows very prominently from up and down the river, and will make a fine mark for the pilots, as well as ornamenting the station, and the place seems more like being a naval post from having the flag flying over it. The work at League Island is nearly stopped for want of money, the appropriations having been exhausted. The yards and docks store-house is ready for the roof, and it is expected to get that on before the close of the year. Piles are being driven, and the foundations for the iron plating shops will soon be completed, and after these two jobs are finished all work will be stopped until the next appropriations are available. All the guns have been sent down from Philadelphia yard, and most of the shot. The anchors are all sent down also, and all put up on the anchor racks. The gun park fronts on the Delaware, and has an excellent appearance from the river. The flag-staff is in the middle of the gun park, and the anchor racks are in the rear of the shot piles. Orders were given last week to send the monitor *Terror* to Philadelphia to be fitted and put in commission immediately. She is now there and the workmen are caulking her decks and she will be ready in two or three weeks. The *Pasado* and *Lehigh* were also got out and the first sent to Chester to be repaired by J. Roach & Co., while the *Lehigh* has gone to Wilmington to be repaired by Hollingworth & Co. The other monitors have been surveyed carefully with a view of facilitating the selection of those to be repaired, etc. Orders were also given to send the iron-clad *Nantuxet* to Messrs. Cramp & Sons at Kensington, and the *Jason* to John Roach at Chester. They were sent to the above places on November 23. The *Nantuxet* and *Jason* and the other vessels previously sent from League Island, except the *Terror*, are heavy single turret ships and carry 15-inch and 100-pounder rifle guns, principally 15-inch, and all have seen heavy service, especially off Charleston during the rebellion.

The London *Naval and Military Gazette* says of the *Polaris* expedition: "Commander Markham, who made a voyage in the steam-whaler *Arctic*, and was thus brought in contact with the *Polaris* crew, is of opinion that that expedition was ill adapted for the errand on which it was despatched, both as regards the vessel and her appointments, and, above all, her crew, none of whom, excepting Captain Hall, had much interest in the matter. Yet, in the face of these drawbacks, some important information was obtained, which is sufficient to lead to the belief that by the use of a strong built steamer, which could push her way through the ice, a properly fitted out naval expedition could reach the North Pole. The reasons for such sanguine expectations being formed are that the *Polaris*, after passing through the middle ice region in five days, without any obstacle at all, reached the extreme northern point of 82 deg. 16 min., and was then brought up by a loose floe, through which a steam-whaler could have found a passage. Captain Hall, it appears, was reluctant to turn back then, but not being a sailor he had to be guided by the advice of the navigator of the expedition. No icebergs were seen north of 80 deg., and where the *Polaris* wintered, 81 deg. 30 min. N., the temperature was much higher than that of points further south, where our own Arctic explorers have wintered. A polar land was discovered in about 84 deg., and vestiges of man found in 83 deg. 33 min. proved the country to be habitable; while a regular ebb and flow of the tide and the presence of drift wood proved the communication in the open water. Commander Markham's experience in the whaler has been sufficient to convince him that such a vessel as the *Arctic*, a strong built iron screw steamer, of 70 horse power and 439 tons, could force her way with ease through pack ice which used to stop the progress of old sailing expeditions, and that she had forced her way through the floes called the "middle ice," which had often proved an impenetrable barrier to Arctic navigators. Further than that the captain of the *Arctic* states that he would have no hesitation in going to the point reached by the *Polaris*, if he anticipated meeting with whales there, and in the ordinary course of fishing he had gone further north than our greatest expeditions ever reached. It is to be hoped, then, now the road is being opened to us by these fresh discoveries, that the Government may be pleased to listen to the application made to them for a properly equipped naval Arctic expedition, and that the seamen of England who had the honor of the early Arctic explorations may be the first to reach the North Pole."

The seizure of the *Virginus* by the *Tornado*, when unprotected by the guns of our ships of war, presents an unenviable contrast, when we recur to a couple of incidents in the history of that vessel. In the latter part of April, 1872, lying in the harbor of Aspinwall, the *Virginus*, watched by the *Pizarro*, dared not venture out, as her capture had been threatened, although she carried American papers and was properly cleared. On learning, however, that the U. S. steamer *Kansas*, a small vessel of five guns, would give all the protection in her power and escort her to sea, she weighed anchor and stood out. The *Pizarro* was not slow in imitating the movement, and went so far as to point her large rifle pivot at the *Virginus* as well as two of her broadside guns. It was a stirring sight to see the three leave the harbor—the *Virginus* on the port bow of the *Kansas* and the *Pizarro* on her starboard quarter. Thus they went to sea—both of the war vessels with batteries cast loose and at quarters. On this occasion the *Pizarro* dared not fire a hostile shot or attempt to overhaul the *Virginus*. A year later this same *Kansas*, under a different commander, but one of no less courage, found the *Virginus* in the same port menaced by another war vessel of the Spanish Navy—the *Bazan*. The *Virginus* was again escorted out of the harbor and to sea, in the face of the threats of the *Bazan* to capture her. The *Kansas* was inferior in force to either the *Pizarro* or the *Bazan*, but had the spirit and courage to resist at all hazards any attempt to overhaul or forcibly seize a vessel carrying the American flag. The lack of courage or an abundant discretion on the part of the commanding

officers of the *Pizarro* and *Bazan* saved a conflict, and the presence of a *Kansas*, when the *Tornado* was chasing the *Virginus*, would have saved the butcheries at Santiago de Cuba.

The steamer *Despatch*, formerly the *America*, purchased by the Navy Department, at New York, arrived at Norfolk on the 23d inst., where she is to be fully equipped, officered and manned for naval service. This vessel is said to have been built at an expense of \$400,000, and is finished in all the elegance of a first-class yacht. She was sold to the Government at a great sacrifice. At the same time that she is finished so beautifully, she is also of the very best construction, and scarcely has an equal. She was designed for high speed with fine sea-going qualities, and has great power. Her machinery is reported to be as perfect as it is possible to be, and of exquisite workmanship. She carries about 180 tons of coal, and consumes from twelve to eighteen tons per day, according to speed. She has made nearly seventeen miles an hour, and can easily run twelve, with a consumption of only one ton an hour. It is not known definitely to what uses she is to be put, but she is probably, as her name implies, intended as a despatch boat—possessing all the requisites for such.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

NOVEMBER 20.—Lieutenant-Commander Edgar C. Merriman, to the Colorado as executive, on the 26th inst.

Lieutenants Richard Wainwright and Louis A. Kingsley, to report to the Chief of Bureau of Equipment, etc., for special duty.

Ensign John B. Collins, to recruiting duty at New Orleans, La.

Paymaster Frank C. Crosby, to the Franklin on the 4th December next.

First Assistant Engineer James Entwistle, to the Franklin.

First Assistant Engineer Edmund Olson, to the iron-clad steamer Dictator.

Second Assistant Engineer A. F. Dixon, to the iron-clad steamer Ajax.

NOVEMBER 21.—Pay Inspector W. W. Williams, to the Colorado on the 1st December.

Sailmaker Wm. M. Howells, to the Franklin.

NOVEMBER 22.—Commander Edward P. Lull, to temporary duty in command of Torpedo Station at Newport, R. I.

Master Joseph B. Hobson, to the Despatch.

Pay Director C. J. Emory, to duty as inspector of provisions, etc., at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 1st December next.

Paymaster W. A. Watmough, to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Chief Engineer E. B. Latch, as member of board for the inspection of ships.

NOVEMBER 23.—Lieutenant-Commander Nathan H. Barnes, and Gunner Samuel D. Hines, to the Canandaigua.

NOVEMBER 24.—Assistant Paymaster Lawrence G. Boggs, to the Despatch.

Assistant Surgeon Hampton A. Nick, to the Despatch.

Second Assistant Engineer George Currie, Jr., to the Mayflower.

NOVEMBER 25.—Lieutenants George F. Wilkins and R. B. Feck, Master James W. Graydon, and Midshipmen F. H. Le Favour and Wm. M. Irwin, to the Brooklyn on the 4th December next.

Lieutenant J. K. F. Ragade, Midshipman Whitmil P. Ray, Assistant Surgeon James M. Scott, and Acting Boatswain Wm. Winchester, to the Colorado.

Ensign Edward M. Hughes, in the Despatch.

DETACHED.

NOVEMBER 26.—Captain R. W. Shufeldt, from duty as member of Examining Board, at Annapolis, and ordered to the Navy-yard, New York, as executive, 1st December.

Captain George M. Ransom, from duty as executive of the Navy-yard, New York, 1st December, and ordered to command the Colorado.

Captain Edward Simpson, from command of the Torpedo Station 1st December, and ordered to command the Franklin.

Captain William F. Tustina, from duty as Inspector of Ordnance at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 11th December, and ordered to command the Brooklyn.

Lieutenant-Commander Frederick Rodgers, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to command the Despatch.

Lieutenant-Commander Frederick Pearson, from special ordnance duty, and ordered to the Brooklyn, 1st December next, as executive.

Lieutenant-Commander William B. Wheeler, from the receiving ship Vermont, and ordered to take passage on the Powhatan, and upon falling in with Junia, to report for duty on board of her as executive.

Lieutenant-Commander George W. Armentrout, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Franklin, 4th December.

Lieutenant Henry W. Lyon, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to the Franklin, 4th December next.

Lieutenant Richard M. Cutts, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Franklin, 4th December next.

Chief Engineer J. S. Finney from special duty at Newburgh, N. Y., and ordered to the Colorado.

Chief Engineer A. J. Kierstie, from the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, and ordered to the Franklin.

Chief Engineer John Johnson, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to the Brooklyn.

First Assistant Engineer William H. Harris, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to the Despatch.

First Assistant Engineer E. T. Phillips, from League Island, Pa., and ordered to the Brooklyn.

First Assistant Engineer R. I. Bennett, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the iron-clad steamer Dictator.

First Assistant Engineer John B. Carpenter, from the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the iron-clad steamer Ajax.

Second Assistant Engineer A. B. Bates, from League Island, Pa., and ordered to the iron-clad steamer Dictator.

Second Assistant Engineer H. L. Slosson, from the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the Colorado.

Second Assistant Engineer George Cowie, Jr., from the Mahopae, and ordered to report to the Chief Bureau of Steam Engineering for assignment to other duty.

Gunner E. J. Wangh, from the receiving ship Vermont, and ordered to the Colorado.

NOVEMBER 21.—Lieutenant James R. Selfridge, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th of December next.

Lieutenant William H. Parker, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th of December next.

Master E. J. Arthur, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th of December next.

Surgeon G. W. Woods, from the Naval Hospital, Navy-yard, Mare Island, and ordered to the Naval Rendezvous, San Francisco, Cal.

Passed Assistant Surgeon William J. Simos, from the Naval Rendezvous, San Francisco, Cal., and ordered to return home and report to the Navy.

Boatswain Andrew Milne, from the Naval Station, League Island, Pa., and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Boatswain John McCaffery, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th December next.

Gunner George F. Cashman, from the Naval Station, League Island, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Gunner Cecil C. Neil, from the Canandaigua, and ordered to the Pinta.

Gunner Thomas R. Wilson, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th December next.

Carpenter George E. Anderson, from the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December next.

Carpenter H. M. Griffin, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 4th December next.

Carpenter Peter T. Ward, from the receiving ship Vermont, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Sailmaker George T. Douglas, from the receiving ship Sabine, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Sailmaker Joseph C. Bradford, from the receiving ship Vermont, and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December next.

NOVEMBER 22.—Lieutenant-Commander F. R. Smith, from ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to Key West, Fla., for duty as inspector of ordnance.

Lieutenant H. E. Nichols, from the Idaho, Asiatic station, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

Lieutenant Jefferson F. Moser, from special duty at Washington, D. C., and ordered to the Despatch as executive.

Lieutenant Seaton Schroeder, from the Canandaigua, and ordered to the Pinta.

Pay Inspector George L. Davis, from duty as inspector of provisions, etc., at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 1st December next, and ordered to the flagship of the North Pacific station, and also as fleet paymaster of that station.

Paymaster A. J. Pritchard, from duty as fleet paymaster of the North Pacific station, and ordered to proceed home and report arrival.

Assistant Paymaster Z. T. Brown, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the Pinta.

First Assistant Engineer Hugh H. Cline, from the Canandaigua and placed on sick leave.

NOVEMBER 24.—Captain C. H. B. Caldwell has reported his arrival home, having been detached from the Lancaster, South Atlantic station, on the 24th ult., and has been ordered to duty in charge of the Naval Rendezvous, Boston, on the 1st December.

Captain George H. Preble, from command of the Naval Rendezvous, Boston, December 1, and to continue on special duty.

Commander James A. Greer, from the command of the Tigress, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander N. Mayo Dyer, from the torpedo station, and ordered to command the tug Mayflower.

Lieutenant-Commander T. J. Higginson, from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the Franklin as executive.

Lieutenants George F. Wilkins and Robert M. Berry, from the Tigress and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant Thomas M. Gardner, from the command of the Mayflower, and ordered to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

Lieutenant Wells L. Field has reported his arrival at San Francisco, Cal., having been detached from the Lackawanna, Asiatic station, on the 22d ult., and has been ordered to Washington city to report to the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

Assistant Engineer Stephen J. W. Elison, from the Tigress, and ordered to temporary duty at the Naval Hospital, New York.

Assistant Paymaster George E. Baughman, from the Tigress, and ordered to settle accounts.

First Assistant Engineer John P. Kelly, from the naval station, New London, Conn., and ordered to the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

First Assistant Engineer George W. Melville and Second Assistant Engineer William A. Mintzer, from the Tigress, and ordered to the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

Second Assistant Engineer George S. Gates has reported his arrival home, having been detached from the Asiatic station on the 21st August last, and has been placed on sick leave.

NOVEMBER 25.—Lieutenant-Commander Horace Elmer, from the naval station, League Island, Pa., and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December.

Lieutenant Bloomfield McIlwaine, from the receiving ship Potomac, and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December next.

Lieutenants Frederick W. Crocker and A. S. Snow, from the torpedo station, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Lieutenant Edwin Longnecker and Master Karl Rohrer, from the torpedo station, and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December.

Lieutenant Willie Swift and Midshipman Chauncey Thomas, from the Supply, and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December.

Midshipman Aaron Ward, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 4th December.

Medical Inspector F. M. Grinnell, from the Froile, and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th December next.

Medical Inspector S. F. Coates, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December.

Surgeon Newton L. Bates, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 11th December next.

Passed Assistant Surgeon F. M. Dearborne, from the Supply, and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th December.

Passed Assistant Surgeon George S. Culbreth, from the Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., and ordered to the Navy-yard, Norfolk.

Assistant Surgeon J. F. Bradford, from special duty, and ordered to the Brooklyn on the 4th December next.

Assistant Surgeon Henry M. Martin, from the Marine Rendezvous, Philadelphia, and ordered to the Colorado on the 1st December.

Acting Assistant Surgeon William Harston, from the receiving ship Potomac at Philadelphia, and ordered to the Franklin on the 4th December.

Chief Engineer Elijah Laws, and First Assistant Engineer Levi T. Safford, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the iron-clad steamer Terror.

APPOINTED.

Charles L. Duncan, of Kittery, Me.; Cornelius Cronin, of Erie, Pa., and John Riley, of Charlestown, Mass., acting gunners in the Navy from the 20th November, 1873.

William Winchester and Thomas M. Brown acting boatswains in the Navy from the 21st November, 1873.

Philip T. Mager, of San Francisco, Cal., an acting carpenter in the Navy from the 15th November, and ordered to report for duty on board the Kearsarge.

PROMOTED.

Assistant Surgeon Henry C. Eckstein, to be a passed assistant surgeon from the 17th November, 1873.

Master Washington O. Sharper, to be a lieutenant in the Navy from the 22d March, 1873.

RESIGNED.

Midshipman Wm. H. Van de Carr, to take effect on the 21st November, 1873.

First Assistant Engineer Henry Snyder, to take effect on the 31st December, 1873.

ORDERS REVOKED.

The orders of Second Assistant Engineer Henry L. Rhodes, to the Manhattan, and ordered to hold himself in readiness for assignment to other duty.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General for the week ending November 22, 1873:

David James Conner, seaman, October 4, U. S. steamer Richmond.

Thomas Stewart, sergeant marines, November 13, Naval Hospital, Washington.

John Pomplun, ship's cook, (Lds.), September 21, U. S. steamer Iroquois, Shanghai, China.

THE remains of Thomas C. Stewart, late a sergeant in the U. S. M. C., were buried at Washington, D. C., November 16. The *Washington Chronicle* says he returned from a cruise in the Mediterranean as orderly sergeant of the marine guard of the *Plymouth*, since which time he has contracted consumption, from which he gradually sunk and expired on Friday, November 15, at the Marine Hospital. He was a young man of fine qualities, a brave soldier, and was beloved by his comrades and superior officers. Harmony Lodge, of the Masonic fraternity, to which the deceased belonged, marched from the temple with a section of the marine band, to the hospital, where it was joined by a battalion of 100 marines from headquarters with side arms, under command of Sergeant Major Edward Dunn, and a sergeant's guard or escort firing party in charge of Orderly Sergeant Lombardy. The cortege then moved out to the cemetery preceded by the full marine band. Three volleys of musketry were discharged over the remains, and the impressive burial service of the Masonic fraternity read in the presence of a large number of spectators.

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General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lately, Washington, D. C.; Admiral David D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.; Major-General G. G. Meade, U. S. Army, Philadelphia; Brevet Brigadier-General George Sykes, U. S. Army; Brigadier-General I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army, Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army, San Francisco, Cal.; Brigadier-General Wm. M. Graham, U. S. Army, Fort Hamilton, N. Y.; Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.

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The Gorham Company do not sell at retail, but refer all who may wish to obtain either Silver or Electro to the leading jewellers in the place where they may reside.

The *Washington Chronicle* of Nov. 20, says: "The deed conveying the property formerly known as Ford's Theatre, in Tenth street, and now as the Army Medical Museum, to the United States Government, by John T. Ford and Edith B. Ford, his wife, was only filed yesterday in the Recorder's office, although the conveyance was drawn and executed May 12, 1866, over seven years ago. The price paid, as named therein, is '\$100,000 lawful money of the United States,' and the deed is quite brief, not covering over three pages of legal cap."

At the Norfolk Navy-yard work on the *Galena*, which is entirely rebuilding, and upon the new sloop-of-war authorized by the last act of Congress, is pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and it is understood that the force of workmen will be largely increased on the 1st of December.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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THE SPANISH NAVY.

THOSE of us who recall the spring and summer of '61, will remember how the popular imagination was excited, in those days of our simplicity in regard to all thing military, by the stories the reporters told of the formidable "masked batteries" that barred our progress toward the stronghold of the Confederacy. The mention of a "masked battery" was considered sufficient excuse for any act of imbecility or cowardice, and the stoutest soldier was deemed to have abundant excuse for alarm when he was asked to confront one of these terrible engines of modern warfare. With the possibility of a naval war before us, there seems to be some danger that a similar superstition will seize upon our people in regard to the latest invention in the line of naval improvement—the broadside iron-clads. It would be hard to say what these cumbersome vessels have really accomplished thus far, except it be to task the ingenuity of the rolling mills, and to weigh down the budget of the several European States to the verge of bankruptcy. One of the finest of them, belonging to Italy, was sunk by a wooden frigate in the battle of Lissa, off the Italian coast; another, the British *Captain*, went down in a moderate gale with all on board, and others have come to grief in various ways; while the French navy, which stands second only to that of England in the possession of these monsters, accomplished nothing with them against her antagonist in the Franco-German war.

True, it may be argued that no sufficient opportunity has yet been offered these vessels to show their quality, but to that we answer that until they have demonstrated their superiority we need not suffer our imaginations to be overcome by them; and least of all have we any occasion to be disturbed by the prospect of an assault from the iron-clad fleet of Spain which some of the "enterprising reporters" are magnifying to such alarming dimensions. Spain has afloat to-day seven iron-clads. Chief of these is the *Numancia* (25), now in the hands of the Spanish insurgents. Next comes the *Arapiles* (17), in the dry dock at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, undergoing repairs at the hands of the Delamaters. Another, the *Resolucion* (6), is, we believe, in the Asiatic waters. This leaves four, the *Victoria* (23), *Tetuan* (40), *Sagunto* (13), and *Zaragoza* (21), all of which are now off the coast of Spain, looking after the Intransigentes. Of these seven iron-clads one, the *Numancia*, was built at Cartagena, and the others in England. With the exception of the *Resolucion* they are vessels of 800 to 1,000 horse power, drawing some 30 feet, and incapable of entering any but one or two of our harbors, except under the most favorable circumstances such as war does not offer. None of these iron-clads have more than five and a half inches of armor plating, and this, as has been clearly demonstrated, is no proof against our heavy guns. The registered speed of the best of them is twelve or thirteen knots, and in their present condition we doubt whether more than seven or eight knots can be got out of any of them.

Weak as our Navy is, we can more than match Spain in iron-clads already afloat, and those of a pattern more formidable we believe than any she pos-

sesses; none of her iron-clads need disturb the equanimity of a captain in command of even one of the better class of our wooden vessels, with the old naval spirit to inspire him. Spain has not a single iron-clad that can compare with such a vessel as the *Dictator*, which, besides its other qualities, is a most formidable vessel for ramming.

And we have quite a list of monitors (how many, only a careful examination of their present condition will show), that could at small expense be made ready by having their laminated plates replaced by solid plates, and their turrets covered with the best modern armor. This would make them substantially equal in defensive power to any vessel afloat, and enable them to cope with the best of European ordnance. Even as they stand there are not probably half-a-dozen guns in the Spanish navy that could inflict any damage—most of the Spanish naval guns being the old 68 pounder, with a few Armstrong's of small calibre.

Of wooden vessels Spain has on her naval list eleven screw steamers, of from 360 to 600 and 800 horse power, two side-wheel steamers of 600 horse power, besides the *Fernando el Catolico* recently sunk off Cartagena. Twenty-six corvettes (side-wheelers) of from 2 to 5 guns, and eleven (screws) of from 2 to 10 guns, and perhaps 30 gun-boats, besides half a dozen armed transports and the 30 gun-boats of 40 horse power built in the United States for Cuban waters, not ten of which are afloat to-day, and none of which are of the slightest account as against us. This includes everything, good, bad and indifferent, except the 17 gun-boats in the Philippine islands carrying one gun each and of no use elsewhere, and a dozen worthless sailing vessels. Of the heavier vessels many are old and worthless as, for example, the *Asturias* and *Carmen* (school ships), the *Lealtad*, and the *Colon*, *Blasco de Garay*, *Pizarro*, *Leon*, *Hernan Cortez*, *Vasco Nunez*, *Vulcano*, *Lepanto* and *Ulima*. The *Churruca*, belonging to the same class, was a side wheel American blockade runner, and was good at one time for 13 knots, but has seen her best days.

Some of the Spanish gunboats are swift vessels, if in good condition, and would be a thorn in the side of our commercial marine; but of that we should have to count the cost in case of war, and rely upon the acquisition of Cuba to compensate us for the loss. It is clear that this is the only point at which we are vulnerable, so far as Spain is concerned. Our torpedo system is yet untried, but we believe it is with our coast defences (not to speak of our own Navy) sufficient protection against the Spaniards. We have no reason to court war for any material advantage it might bring us; but if it comes, we see no reason to dread it, so far as the aggressive power of Spain is concerned, and least of all because of her too-much vaunted iron-clads. And any vessel of our merchant marine that could show ten or eleven knots would find few, if any, Spanish vessels at sea that she could not run away from. A navy cannot be maintained in these modern days without a large expenditure of money, and of this Spain has had no surplus, and her navy, so far as we can learn, is in even a worse condition for a fight than our own was at the commencement of the war excitement. And while she is in no condition to improve, we are at least doing something to put ours into a better condition for service. And when it comes to the question of the personnel of the two services, while we have no disposition to indulge in bragadocio, we have as little reason to be disturbed at the prospect of a Spanish war. We have every confidence that in an emergency it would be found that the days for pluck and seamanship have not yet gone by altogether, iron-clads or no iron-clads.

THE events of the last fortnight in Cuba have brought a good many unusual reflections to the minds of the American people, and among them the recollection that this nation has committed its naval interests to the success of a system of artillery which has been almost universally discarded elsewhere. With one exception other great powers have abandoned the smooth-bore system for that of rifled guns, and the excepted nation has returned to smooth-bores only as an adjunct to a thorough armament of rifled pieces. We have no intention of criticising the smooth-bore system, for which we have in our time

made a stout defence, and it is well known that its greatest perfection as yet carried out has been reached in this country. The only point we desire to make is that it is not well to trust to that alone. We would not melt down or reject any piece in our ships or forts, but common prudence demands that the bold self-reliance we have practised so far should not be carried too far. The interests which our guns are intended to protect are too vast to excuse remissness in applying any additional means of security which are within our power.

We confess to very great faith in those deductions which led our artillerists to carry the smooth-bore system to so high efficiency, but if our vessels were called upon to move out against a fleet armed with rifles of grades equal to the guns on board our ships, there can be no doubt that more than the usual and inevitable anxiety would be felt by our people in all quarters public and private. There has not yet been a satisfactory war test of either system against the heavy iron-clads of recent build, but the English have followed up their numerous changes of ordnance with such extraordinary persistence in trials that they, and through them other nations using similar guns, may feel an assurance in this respect that the Americans certainly can lay no claim to.

As we are at present situated, the failure of our ordnance system would be an evil which, with all the resources of our iron works, would require months even to begin to cure. Our Government, by introducing any system of rifled guns, either well known and tried or only as yet promising well, could build up in the country's workshops facilities which in time of war would take months to produce and would be enormously costly. Against such a course there is absolutely no argument but one of cost. There is no jealousy and no prejudice to overcome. If Congress will vote the moderate appropriations needed, it will find the Ordnance Department ready to bow to its mandate.

We have not forgotten that this country has produced that system of rifled artillery which still wears the crown of the greatest battering feat ever performed in war. But while abstaining from criticism of Captain PARROT's famous guns, it is sufficient to say that in all probability neither our Ordnance Department, our Congress, or our people would be satisfied with a system of cast-iron rifled guns. What is needed is the introduction of built up guns coupled with experiments enough to obtain gradually a perfected system of rifled ordnance to work by the side of our magnificent smooth-bores.

THE company formed in New York something less than a year ago for the purchase of the Samana Peninsula in San Domingo, has not thus far justified the sanguine expectations which attended its organization. Its chief object was stock speculation, and some of the leading "operators" in Wall street were included in its management. Several of these have been overtaken by the fate which so often follows the rash venturers in their line, and are an incubus on the company, instead of floating it on the golden tide of Wall street inflation as it was hoped they would. And while financial difficulty attends the company at home, the outlook in San Domingo is not altogether lovely. The latest news from San Domingo City, to the 12th of November, is to the effect that General MANZUETA and three other generals have been shot by order of President BAEZ. They were implicated in recent revolutionary movements. It is expected that six other officers of high rank, now in prison on similar charges, will soon be executed. A despatch from Puerto Plata also announces that the election for President of the Republic of San Domingo will be held on the 1st of December. The leading candidates are President BAEZ, Senor GONZALES, the governor of Puerto Plata, and General CACERES. It is thought that BAEZ will not obtain a re-election. The defeat at the elections of his personal government would bring about a complete change of policy in the Republic and doubtless in the attitude of the Government toward the Samana Bay Company.

The revolutionists on the Haytian frontier are daily growing stronger, the dispatch also informs us. They have organized a provisional government, with LUFERON as president, and are preparing for

a general advance. They claim that they are now strong enough to defend any force President BAEZ can put into the field.

THE officering of the *Minnesota*, *Colorado*, *Franklin*, *Brooklyn*, *Plymouth*, *Roanoke*, *Florida*, and other vessels ordered to be made ready for sea, is making sad havoc among the shore stations and the officers on leave. It is gratifying to state, however, that numbers have volunteered, and that none have failed to respond to the call for duty at sea. Such unanimity of feeling and anxiety to serve their country, should war ensue, has seldom been witnessed. Veterans on the retired list hold themselves ready, ex-officers of the Volunteer Navy are offering their services from all sections of the country, and even the midshipmen at the Naval Academy have intimated that if necessary they will throw aside their text-books and join the heroic band. No volunteers have yet been accepted, though there have been some examinations for acting assistant surgeons, the Medical Corps being short.

A DESPATCH was sent from Washington on the 22d of November, to the daily papers to the following effect: "It seems not to be generally known that there have been preparations quietly going on under the direction of the Secretary of War for placing our arsenals in condition to supply the wants of an army in the field, in case of war, and looking to the condition of the armament of our fortifications for the successful defence of our harbors against a hostile attack by iron-clads. The ordnance department of the Army is at this moment in most active preparation for a state of war, and is ready to supply an army with an entire equipment of war material, including the most approved breech-loading arms and field and siege batteries of artillery with every kind of ammunition. The telegraph has been vigorously used urging forward every preparation to the extent of the ordnance appropriation. The ordnance officers are fully alive to the gravity of the occasion and to the necessity for ample preparation to meet all demands should war be the result of our present complications. While from the nature of the case the Navy had to take the active initiative, the War Department is fully alive to the crisis in quiet preparation for the future."

ACTIVITY in the Navy Department is unabated, and the preparation of vessels for sea is still going on. One is reminded of the days of the rebellion, when all the clerical force was kept actively employed. Among the recent orders issued, are those for fitting out the *Macedonian* and *Savannah*, two of our old sailing frigates, which are to proceed to Key West, where they are to be stationed—the former as an ordnance store-ship, the latter as an ordinary store ship. This proceeding, in connection with the concentration of a large supply of ordnance and other stores at Key West, and the sending of mechanics and machinists to that point, looks as if that was to be made an important supply and fitting post—if not for a "war," at least until the complications with Spain are honorably settled.

Another significant measure is the order for the recruiting of the Marine Corps to its full complement allowed by law. This, with the opening of rendezvous for the enlistment of seamen at many of the principal cities, smacks of hostilities. Then, again, the *Colorado* and *Minnesota* are to have their poop-decks removed, and their space utilized by the mounting of heavy guns. In fact every order issued, every step taken by the Navy Department, has the smell of gunpowder. The tugs which for several years have occupied room on our Navy-yard fronts, and were occasionally brought into requisition to aid a frigate to sea, or convey a steam boiler or monster anchor from one point to another, now take the shape of war auxiliaries. Some are adapted for the torpedo, others supplied with the means for sounding and fixing the depths of intricate channels, and all such are put under the command of able officers, who in times of peace would be chagrined at being ordered to a position less than the executive of a line of battle ship, or as captain of a third class steamer.

What does all this mean? It means that the

Government is in earnest, and that if the demands which it has made, and which it believes to be just, are not complied with, it shall not be totally unprepared for the consequences which may follow.

The impression which now pervades the official circles of the capital is that the difficulties will have a peaceful solution. But what creates such an impression? Why, the belief that Spain, rather than hazard the safety of the Republic, or run the risk of losing Cuba, will accede to any demand which the Government has made; in other words, that they will avoid war at all sacrifices.

Those, however, who are better informed, who understand the Spanish character, who know its pride, are doubtful of a peaceful solution. The surrender of the *Virginia*, for instance, which vessel was conveyed into Havana amidst the shouts and applause of the excited populace, and the sending of her out of the harbor, would be a galling blow to Spanish pride. Making provisions for the families of those whom they executed as the deadliest enemies to their country, would scarcely be less vexing. The punishment of BURRIEL or others, if acting under general or special orders of superior authority, would be a measure almost impossible to execute. The other reputed demands could be acceded to without wounding Spanish pride.

Viewing the matter in this light, the prompt action of the Secretary of the Navy, which has been applauded by almost all classes, is particularly commended by those who anticipate war. While the Government, as it is almost bound to do, through its premier, counsels moderation, and announces in hopeful terms the prospects of an early and satisfactory solution of the *Virginia* affair, it is still thought a peaceful settlement, if accomplished at all, will be attended with much difficulty. It is almost impossible for any one to declare what a fortnight may bring forth. The Spaniards are not idle, although their proceedings are not published, as ours are. It is well known that even recently large shipments of munitions of war, of horses, etc., have been made from both New York and New Orleans to Havana.

At the Brooklyn Navy-yard work in the different departments continues to be pushed. Pay Director J. C. Eldridge, inspector of provisions and clothing, is forwarding large supplies chiefly to Key West, Florida. Other shipments have been made to Pensacola, Florida, Navy-yard; Norfolk, Washington, and Boston Navy-yards. This department has only seventy men employed, but everything appertaining to it has been so well kept and systematically arranged that immense orders can be attended to in a short period. The Ordnance Department, in charge of Commander R. W. Meade, has about 300 men hard at work mounting batteries and preparing equipments. In the Department of Steam Engineering there are some 560 workmen. They have been putting the machinery of the *Colorado* in readiness for sea. Four boilers have been put in the *Minnesota*, and her machinery is receiving a thorough overhauling. Mr. Quintard is fitting the engines of the *Florida*, with instructions to have her ready in twenty days. The *Tennessee* is being rapidly made ready, and Mr. Roach will have her machinery completed and in position within three weeks. The *Dictator* arrived at the yard on November 23, and is having new tubes put in her boilers, and her engines are being prepared for sea. The *Roanoke's* boilers are having new tubes put in, and orders were given on November 20 to have her ready in thirty days. She will be used for harbor defense only. The *Torpedo* boat is having a shield put on her deck to protect the gun to be placed there. Work upon her is progressing slowly, and it is not probable she will be ready before February or March, 1874, at the earliest. The engineering department at present is the only one engaged night and day. The construction department has the largest number of employees, who are vigorously pushing forward work on the *Colorado*, *Minnesota*, and *Florida*, and are also engaged on other vessels. The *Supply* and *Tigress* will very likely be put out of commission the latter part of this week or the first of next week. The *Gettysburg* left this yard on Nov. 23 for the Boston yard with supplies, etc. Workmen are still engaged, though slowly, repairing the Spanish iron-clad frigate *Arapiles*. The gates of the dry dock are somewhat out of repair and blocked by mud, and at present it cannot be said how long it will take to remove the obstacles. On Nov. 26 Secretary Robeson visited the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and also Admiral Porter. At present there are about 8,000 men employed at the yard.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

SMOOTH SAILING IN THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In compliance with the desire of "Mary O" in your JOURNAL of the 15th inst., I have determined to take up the pen boldly, and while "My Lord" wields the sword, I, without much ado, can outrank him, inasmuch as "the pen is mightier than the sword." I in a few things agree with her—as for instance, "army ladies" do have experiences that the gentlemen in their daily routine of duty never think of.

When the oft-repeated order, "Prepare to move," comes, and at that to be ready at a day's notice, then of course our husbands are as busy as bees (particularly if they are quartermasters, and everybody wants everything and can't, by any means, wait a half minute). Who rips up the carpet (if by good chance you have any), packs trunks, etc., etc., and in the hurry and bustle of moving, grabbing "big box, little box, bandbox, bundle," and the inevitable "baby," rushes for the ambulance (if the commanding officer in a fit of good humor deigns to bestow one on an unfortunate Lieutenant, as my husband is)? If, however, we are not so fortunate as to procure an ambulance, I am very sure our "half wagon" and 500 lbs. of freight ought to satisfy the most fastidious, even if you are either the happy or unhappy "possessor of fifteen children all under ten years of age." I have not a "Charlie" who calls me "a little goose," probably because it would be very inappropriate, as I outweigh "my Charlie" several pounds. But if you are "a little goose," you are a very wise one, inasmuch as I who have been in the Army over ten years (but having been married only three) confess myself very ignorant in regard to military matters, even if I have helped my husband by writing up proceedings of many a "board," "council" or court-martial, etc., etc.

I do not share with you in your dislike of editorials, especially those contained in the columns of the ARMY AND NAVY, and as for your non-interest in the naval intelligence, we ought not to forget that the navy ladies wait each week just as impatiently as we do for the JOURNAL to put in an appearance. But as I fear I have already trespassed on the columns of the JOURNAL and on the patience of the editor, I will close by giving you a recipe (as per request) for

"Smooth Sailing in the Army."

Be polite to the whole garrison (or the people in it), be humble and submissive to the commanding officer, kiss the dust at the feet of the surgeon, and, above all, don't quarrel with the quartermaster, and don't gossip. "R," OF INDIAN TERRITORY.

BOOTS TO FOOT TROOPS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The new uniform is, as a general rule, an improvement upon the old one. But there are few general rules without exceptions, and so I believe it is with the new uniform too.

According to the old orders there were allowed no boots for foot troops, but a man could draw them anyhow, and that did do for all practical purposes. I expected that with the introduction of the new uniform, there would have been allowed for foot troops an equal number of pairs of boots and shoes. Shoes are very good to walk up and down Broadway in New York, but they are of not much use in mud and in particular in snow. In some of the European States they furnish to foot troops shoes and leggings, and some regiments wore, during the late war in this country, shoes and leggings. The issue of boots to foot troops is now altogether prohibited, and the consequence is that the men have to buy them in the territories (in particular in the northern ones) for extremely high prices.

SITKA, ALASKA, Oct. 24, 1873.

SNOW.

WHERE THE SHOE PINCHES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have read with much pleasure your excellent editorial in the JOURNAL of the 23d inst. entitled "Work in the Navy," and endorse your very just criticism of Mr. Boutwell and gentlemen like him; but permit me to make a remark, and to tell you where, in my judgment, the shoe pinches.

It is not that "Congress does not give the Navy enough money." At least \$18,000,000 is appropriated annually for the support of the Navy—quite enough to maintain a small but splendidly equipped marine and still have a surplus laid by at the end of the year to add so many tons of shipping per annum to the service. The trouble is, "the Navy" does not get this money, at least one-half, if not more, being wasted in our Navy-yards, partly through the influence of political eight-hour demagogues, partly through political jobbery and party subterfuge. The Navy (if by the Navy is meant the personnel and materiel of the service) does not, I say, receive the benefit of the annual appropriation. Witness the recent appropriation for new ships, in which one-half had to be sacrificed ("a tub to the political whale") in order to get the other half. Congress is in a great measure responsible for this condition of affairs, but the politicians throughout the country are mainly responsible.

Until naval officers who wish well to their country have more voice in the direction and control of the naval establishment, and politics is wholly and entirely driven from the Navy and the Navy-yards, and men employed, retained, advanced, and rewarded solely for their fitness—and not at the beck of ward and other politicians—the Navy can never be what it ought to be,

and would be, were the old-time adage regarded of "Putting a tinker to do a tinker's work."

We want political wisdom in the Navy Department, but no politics in the Navy or the Navy-yards. The service is for the benefit of the country, and not for the benefit of individuals, politicians, or parties. Let wisdom, then, pervade our councils while a wholesome business common sense rules in the details of naval administration.

England spends £10,000,000 (\$50,000,000) per annum, has 235 ships (mainly armored ships at that) in commission, and 500 more in her several reserves. The United States spends \$30,000,000 per annum, and keeps thirty-five wooden ships in commission, and has no immediate reserve, while such haste as that of the last few days is frightfully expensive in the end because not foreseen.

When "the Navy" has more to say about the Navy, the country will be better served; and this is where the boot pinches the "national toe." Let politics and favoritism then be abolished in the Navy, every one "fore and aft" the service made to "toe the mark" and do his duty. Establish the personnel of the Navy upon the grim and immutable laws of strict justice (whether rewards or punishments) to all, stop all abuses, and drive all guilty of them from the naval service. At least keep the ships of the West India Squadron on their stations in October and November, as of yore, and where they can prevent, by their cannon, such outrages as that recently perpetrated off Jamaica.

Some of us think President Grant and his Cabinet would endorse these views and carry them out if the national Legislature and the d-d politicians would let him alone.

HANDS OFF AND FAIR PLAY.

THE YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The following are extracts from my journal of the Yellowstone expedition, of which a great deal has already been written and published in the newspapers throughout the country. Some of the matter here presented has already appeared in the columns of the Chicago Tribune as extracts from my letters to a friend, and is now inserted in order to make a connected whole and to bring it to the attention of those who were on the expedition and to those to whom it may prove of interest.

The battalion of the Eighth and Ninth Infantry, to which I was attached, was ordered to concentrate at Omaha Barracks by April 25, 1873; but the movement of the troops was delayed first for fifteen days, and subsequently for ten days more, so that we did not finally get together until May 20. On that day, however, the four companies of the Ninth Infantry, from Forts Sanders and Russell, came down to Omaha, and without unnecessary delay proceeded to Yankton by rail, at which point they waited for the remaining companies of the Eighth and Ninth Infantry. On the 23d these companies—four of the Eighth and two of the Ninth—came up from Omaha Barracks, formed a junction with the four companies of the Ninth, which were already aboard of the boat. They were embarked at midnight, in a heavy rain, on the steamer Western, Captain Clark, and by daylight we were steaming up the Great Muddy. During the 24th we passed the Pinea agency, which recently has been the scene of so much strife between the bloody-minded Sioux (who seem bent on exterminating all small tribes) and the peaceable Pinea. The following day we arrived at Fort Randall, situated on the right bank of the river, and built for a garrison of six companies. This is one of the most desirable posts on the river. It has very comfortable quarters, is convenient to rail and steamboat communications, and, I believe, receives a mail daily. It is at present garrisoned by companies of the Twenty-second Infantry, under the command of Colonel Otis. At this point we received on board Captain Poole, Lieutenant Campbell, Twenty-second Infantry, and five soldiers, en route for Fort Rice.

On the 28th we passed Brule Agency, and saw many Sioux Indians of that tribe, of whom it has about 3,000 attached, for rations, annuities, etc. A large number of squaws and a few buck Indians were at work in a ploughed field planting corn. It was evident that the squaws, as usual, were doing the hardest part of the work, while the majority of the bucks—the loafers—were strutting about in their robes of gaudy-colored blankets, looking as magisterial as you please. At this agency Captain Bush, First Lieutenant Fisher, and Second Lieutenant Davis are stationed with a company of the Twenty-second Infantry. I understand this is a very monotonous station, and by no means to be desired. The service of the agency is by detail once a year, and the present officers must wait patiently until their term of duty expires, when no doubt they will be given a more pleasant post, which, according to the prevailing rumor, will be the Department of the Lakes (which has) recently (been) merged into the Division of the Atlantic.

About the time of our arrival at the agency great excitement prevailed on board, one of the colored parties of the steamer, who had been handling our chins as barber and serving our victuals at the table, being reported down with small-pox. The man had been ailing for several days, but no one knew the nature of his disease, and when it did become known there was quite a panic, almost equal to the panic of which we hear and read so much at the present time. A great many of the cabin passengers, without the least solicitation, waived their rank, and spread their blankets in lowly and high places—some on the cabin deck and others on the hurricane deck, in fact, any place so as to be distant from the dreaded stateroom No. —. Some of them who did not come to the knowledge of the thing until late in the evening were too self-sacrificing as to spread their own beds. The patient, with the assistance of Captain Bush, who was very anxious to help us all he could, was placed on the bank of the river opposite the agency, a tent and rations being given him, and one of Captain Bush's men left to care for him. Although we had considerable ap-

prehension that the disease would spread, day after day passed without its breaking out, and now all danger of it has passed. We were pleased to hear on our return that this man got well without any spread of the disease, notwithstanding he was deserted by his nurse.

We next passed the Crow agency, and saw Dr. Livingston, the agent. The Indians at this agency are the Yanktonais, a branch of the Sioux. We saw no soldiers among them, nor did we hear of any soldiers being stationed at this point.

On Wednesday, the 28th, about 8 P. M., a heavy storm set in, and continued until morning. No serious accidents happened during the night, but considerable alarm was caused by the falling of a yawl boat. In the fierce wind that was blowing, the spar supporting the boat gave way, and passed with a great crash through the stateroom occupied by myself and Lieutenant W. Lucklily for us, we were on the outside at the time, or we might have been killed or left minus a limb.

The day after the storm we passed around the Big Bend of the Missouri, which is said to be forty-five miles around by water, and only twelve miles across by land. While yet in the Bend, about 3 o'clock in the morning, the startling cry was heard, "A man overboard!" Great excitement ensued. "The yawl! the yawl!" was heard coming from different parts of the steamer, and the roaring wind could not smother the cry. The deck hands, or rosters, as they are sometimes called, were on hand lugging at the ropes of the yawl; but every effort to save the drowning man was in vain, the rain falling heavily at the time, and the darkness being so intense that he could not be seen. After the companies were mustered, late in the morning, it was ascertained that one man—Private Hoffman, Company E, Ninth Infantry—was missing, and it was he who had fallen overboard. The accident was caused by the steamer's having no guards. This man's fate is no uncommon thing in this river, and the only wonder is that more men do not walk overboard. I was informed that several soldiers have lost their lives in this way within the last few years. The quartermasters, who have the chartering of these boats, should attend to this matter, and not hire these steamers for the transportation of troops unless they are provided with guards. Every steamer should have adjustable railings, or at least ropes, around the exposed edges. The decks of these vessels and the water are very much of a color, and it is very hard to distinguish the brink of destruction so as to avoid it. Very few escape drowning who fall into the rapid currents of this river, and get mixed up in its quicksands. It is a great mistake to crowd men together on these boats; they are mighty uncomfortable and miserable at best; but how must they feel when they have hardly room enough to lie down? Our steamer carried 400 soldiers, when really not more than 300 or 250 could be properly accommodated.

About noon of the 29th we arrived at Fort Sully, where General Stanley came on board, accompanied by his staff, to pay his respects to our commanding officer, General Bradley. General Stanley, whose reputation as a soldier is well known, is a fine-appearing man, of about 45 years of age, possessed of sound common sense and great executive ability. Every one believes he is the right man in the right place, and will lead the expedition successfully through the wild region over which it is to march.

We had considerable freight to discharge at this point, and it was put off in a drenching rain, the board of survey, or those officers detailed to receive it, taking a wetting so as not to delay the boat. At Sully we saw Captain Irvine, Twenty-second Infantry, who was shot in the head by a treacherous Sioux. It appears the captain was out riding a short distance from the post, when an Indian stole upon him from behind, in their usual assassin-like and cowardly manner, and shot him in the head. Luckily, the bullet glanced up and came out at the crown, instead of penetrating the skull, as the red assassin hoped and expected it would do. The captain was knocked almost senseless, but soon rallied, and boldly went in pursuit of his assailant, but without success, as the red devil had too much the start. The wound is now healed, and the captain is no doubt waiting for an opportunity to revenge this cowardly act of the noble (?) red man.

We passed, on the 1st and 2d of June, several Indian encampments on the banks of the river, some of them quite large—one of which, I believe, must have contained fully 600 Indians of both sexes and all sizes and ages. There seems to be no scarcity in ponies, as they could be seen in large herds about the camps.

We were delayed six hours in trying to get over Swan Lake. This part of the Missouri takes its name from a little lake on the left bank, which of late has washed away the shore, making the river quite wide, and difficult to cross on account of the shallowness of the water. After emerging from the lake, and a run of several hours, we reached Grand River agency. We saw several of the officers stationed at this point, but, owing to the darkness, could not make out the general appearance of the place. I believe, however, from what we did make out in our anxiety to purchase buffalo robes, that the buildings are constructed of logs. This agency, while we were off on the Yellowstone, was removed to Standing Rock Point, so named from a creek in its vicinity. This point is now the agency for the Uncapapas and Murmi-Congoes Sioux, moved from Grand river, about seventy miles below by river. The new site seems to have been well selected, and every body, when we passed on our return, seemed to be busy, except, of course, the big buck Indians, who could be seen idling about on haystacks or lolling about on the ground. Some of these idle bucks were, no doubt, among the "braves" (?) who met us at the Tengen and Big-Horn rivers. They were dressed or robed in their varied-colored blankets, and looked as calm and stately as peacocks, and were no doubt full of brotherly love for their white brethren. But let these same fellows be away in their element, free to roam where there is a chance of seeing a white man, and there, I am sure, they would greet him cordially, and at the

same time shoot him dead from behind blind, and shave him free of expense. They are close shavers, and perfect in the manipulation of the knife. This agency is said to have about 11,000 Indians attached to it for annuities and rations. The main part of the agency is being built on a plateau near the right bank of the river. The houses are being built of logs, and are now well under way. It was very amusing to see the young bucks and quaws run off as fast as they could into the woods when the men would try to imitate what they presumed to be the Indian warble by working their hands over their mouths while ejaculating the ordinary school-boy halloo. Mr. Parmelee is the agent at this place.

On the 2d of June we passed the spot where Beldon, the celebrated white chief, was killed. He was shot through the head by an Indian who had ambushed himself by the side of a little lake, where he knew Beldon would stop to drink and water his pony. The life of this celebrated character, who was recently an officer in the U. S. cavalry, was written by himself, and edited by General James S. Brisbane, of the cavalry, and is now published in book form. It is a valuable work, on account of its excellent descriptions of the Indian character and customs. We saw the Seventh Cavalry to-day on the left bank of the river, just breaking camp to march to Rice, where it is to report to General Stanley, and form a part of the expedition. The steamer *Miner* was in attendance, following up the shore, loaded with the baggage and supplies of the regiment. On the morning of the 4th of June we arrived at Fort Rice, and, disembarking, went into camp about a mile and a half from the post. We were not allowed to go about, but placed in quarantine for ten days on account of the case of small-pox we had on board during the passage up. The strangest part of this quarantine was that we were not allowed by order of the post commander to visit the post or the other camps in the vicinity of the post, but the officers of the post and other camps came freely to our camps, and seemed sorry that the quarantine was so rigid in our case.

Everything about Rice presented a most animated appearance—tents and camps stretching out on all sides and making a war-like and fine spectacle. Long lines of wagons passed and repassed, filing in and out, filling up the empty spaces, and seeking their loads for the long journey before them.

Now the Seventh Cavalry arrives, and was shortly after reviewed by General Terry. It made a fine appearance, with Custer at its head. The column in marching passed around by platoons, and did very well indeed.

The expedition, when completely gathered on the bank of the Missouri, at Fort Rice, was composed as follows:

First. 200 battalions of the Seventh Cavalry (ten companies) Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Custer, commanding.

Second. Four companies of the Eighth Infantry, and six companies of the Ninth Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel L. P. Bradley, commanding.

Third. Five companies of the Twenty-second Infantry, Senior Captain C. A. Dickey, commanding.

Fourth. Three companies of the Seventeenth Infantry, one company of the Sixth Infantry, Major Crofton, commanding.

Fifth. Five scouts from Fort Totten and five from Fort Wadsworth; two Rodman guns and enough infantry to man them.

Sixth. Seventy-five Rio Indians.

The men to man the artillery were selected from Company E, Twenty-second Infantry, and placed under the command of Lieutenant Webster, of that company.

Major Henry Lazelle, Eighth Infantry, an officer of fine scientific attainments, was placed in charge of the scientific party, to accompany the expedition. The scientists are: Mr. Allen, zoologist, mineralogist, and paleontologist; Mr. Powell, photographer; Mr. Kempitski, artist; Dr. Retter, geologist, and Mr. Bennett, general assistant. They are all provided with the necessary instruments and equipment, and expect to make some important discoveries.

A herd of cattle goes with us, and the troops will be furnished fresh beef, slaughtered as they need it, at the rate of five days' fresh meat to two days' bacon. The forage ration is fixed at five pounds of grain (oats) per day to each animal.

For the transportation of our immense amount of forage and rations, we have about 300 mule wagons. The teams are thoroughly equipped and the animals nearly all in good condition. A number of them, however, are new mules, and will give a great deal of trouble before they are properly broken to harness.

There was considerable delay before starting from Rice on account of the non-arrival of the wagons and forage, but after they did arrive we were delayed several days to shoe the cavalry horses and mules; but this being finally finished we got off, feeling happy over breaking camp and beginning our long journey.

The orders governing the expedition are very rigid, and the marching allowances of officers and men are reduced to the lowest possible amount, as follows: One overcoat, one blanket, two sheets, two pairs of drawers, four pairs of socks, two pairs of shoes, are allowed to each man, but must be carried on the body and in the knapsack. In addition, one pair of shoes for each man will be carried in bulk in the wagons. The allowances for officers are as follows: One A. tent for each field officer or captain, and one for every two subalterns; one field desk for each battalion commander; one ordinary mess chest and necessary cooking utensils for every four officers.

The allowance of ammunition per man is 200 rounds, 40 of which are carried in the cartridge-boxes, the balance in bulk in wagons.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish six portable forges and sufficient shoeing tools and coal; 8,500 shoes for horses and as many more for mules; two wheelwrights and tools for their use; an ample supply of spare parts of wagons for repairs.

Five ambulances are allowed for the sick of the command. Several guides accompany the expedition.

The troops were to take the field by the 15th of June, and were not to remain out later than the first day of November. The strength of the command, exclusive of citizens and engineers, is about as follows:

Seventh U. S. Cavalry, 24 officers and 600 men.....	638
Sixth U. S. Infantry, 1 officer and 45 men.....	46
Eighth and Ninth U. S. Infantry, 24 officers and 872 men.....	892
Seventeenth U. S. Infantry 7 officers and 126 men.....	133
Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, 18 officers and 257 men.....	270
Surgeons.....	6
Scouts.....	38

Total.....1,522

Add to these 350 civilians, employees, and a dozen bug men, etc., and we have the whole strength of the expeditionary force.

The following are the officers now on duty with the expedition: General D. S. Stanley, colonel Twenty-second Infantry, commanding; First Lieutenant H. H. Ketchum, Twenty-second Infantry, A. A. Adjutant-General; Captain E. D. Baker, chief quartermaster; First Lieutenant James H. Jones, Fourth Cavalry, aide-de-camp; Second Lieutenant P. H. Ray, Eighth Infantry, chief commissary; Assistant Surgeon J. P. Kimball, chief medical officer.

Seventh U. S. Cavalry.—Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Custer, commanding regiment; First Lieutenant James Calhoun, adjutant; First Lieutenant E. Smith, A. A. Q. and A. C. S.; Acting Assistant Surgeons Ruger and Harvey. Captains, R. Hart, T. W. Benteen, George W. Yates, Thomas French, Owen Hale, M. Moylan; First Lieutenants T. W. Custer, Thomas M. McDougall, E. S. Godfrey, F. Weston, D. McIntosh, E. T. Mathey, F. M. Gibson; Second Lieutenants C. Braden, J. A. Spinwall, C. C. De Rudio, R. H. Hodgson, C. W. Larned, G. B. Wallace, C. A. Varnum, H. M. Harrington.

Sixth U. S. Infantry.—Captain James Powell, Eighth and Ninth Infantry field and staff; Lieutenant-Colonel L. P. Bradley, commanding battalion; Major E. J. Townsend, Ninth Infantry; First Lieutenant James Regan, Ninth Infantry, adjutant; First Lieutenant D. W. Wells, Eighth Infantry, A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; Acting Assistant Surgeon J. La Bree.

Eighth U. S. Infantry.—Captains H. M. Lazelle, J. J. Van Horn, C. Porter, A. W. Cooleas; First Lieutenants E. B. Savage, C. A. Earnest, J. O'Connell; Second Lieutenant E. Lynch.

Ninth U. S. Infantry.—Captains P. A. Owen, W. H. Jordan, A. S. Bent, F. Mears, E. Pollock; First Lieutenants E. Griffith, W. B. Pease, W. E. Hoffman; Second Lieutenants C. M. Rockefeller, James McB Stembel, W. F. Norris, J. A. Baldwin.

Seventeenth U. S. Infantry.—Major E. A. Crofton, commanding battalion; First Lieutenant W. P. Rogers, adjutant; Captains E. P. Pearson, T. E. Grossmann, W. M. Van Horn; First Lieutenants L. M. O'Brien, J. M. Burns, D. H. Brush, C. Metcalf.

Twenty-second U. S. Infantry.—Captain C. J. Dickey, commanding battalion; First Lieutenant W. Conway, adjutant; Acting Assistant Surgeons W. Hoffman and Allen; Captains F. Clark, J. Hartley, D. C. Poole, M. Hooton; First Lieutenants M. E. Hogan, L. E. Campbell, W. W. Daugherty; Second Lieutenants J. McA. Webster, W. H. Kell, J. M. Gore.

TYRO.

OMAHA BARRACKS, NEB.

THE REAL GENERAL TAYLOR.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In vindication of the "truth of history," permit me to correct a few errors in the "Recollections of an Old Stager," as published in *Harper's Magazine* for September.*

Captain John Butler, who died of fever and dysentery at Emargo, on General Taylor's Line, was a Philadelphia, brother-in-law of General Cadwallader, a man of large fortune and of hereditary martial instincts. On the breaking out of the Mexican war he raised a company of dragoons (at his own expense, I think) and volunteered for the war, preferring, though a man of wealth, to be of service to his country than an idler in club-rooms. He did his duty faithfully and zealously, until the malarious diarrhoea of the Rio Grande terminated his career. He was esteemed and regretted by all who came in contact with him.

Colonel Butler, of the Palmetto regiment, brother of Judge Butler, senator from South Carolina, and an ex-Army officer, was killed gallantly leading his regiment in a charge at Cherubusco under General Scott, when also Lieutenant-Colonel Dickenson, of the same regiment, was mortally wounded, and its major, Gladden, dangerously so. I was present at the burial of Colonel Butler and of Lieutenant-Colonel Dickenson, and had the melancholy satisfaction of soothing many suffering hours of the latter before death relieved him of his pains.

The whole story of the scene between Judge Butler, of South Carolina, and President Taylor is manufactured. The Palmetto regiment never was on Taylor's Line, but landed from the United States at Vera Cruz, and joined us at Puebla in July, 1847.

Besides, General Taylor never said either *fit* for "fight" or *fit* for "fought," nor did he ever speak bad English. He had a hesitancy in speech, amounting almost to a stammer, which produced sometimes a jerking enunciation, but he was by no means deficient in education, or in the language of polite society. He was plain, straightforward, simple, honest, in mind and man-

* This paper, writes our correspondent, was originally sent to Harper's in correction of some of the "barber's shop practice" ventilated by that magazine as actual truth. Denied insertion there, I requested the writer to allow me to forward it to you, as it is a matter of some consequence that gossip of that sort above referred to should not be permitted to crystallize into history.

ner, but in everything a gentleman. His elevation to the Presidency was the result of political expediency, by which the Whigs sought to triumph over the Democrats, and succeeded. Unskilled in the science and chicanery of politics, he was out of place in the White House, and this he recognized before his death. Of him it may be said, he was an "honest man, the noblest work of God." The story told of his Secretary of the Navy, Preston, is word for word (except the introduction of Commodore Skinner) the same told of John Branch, Secretary of the Navy under General Jackson. I heard it then frequently, but it cannot claim American origin; it is an old English squib upon a Lord of the Admiralty.

AN EX-ARMY OFFICER.

SAVANNAH, GA., August 27, 1873.

THE CARE OF ARMS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The art in cleaning a musket is not in making it presentable to the eye alone. Many Army officers, acting in the capacity of adjutant, take such as a test in the matter of arms, and the shiny appearance of equipments as another test, in settling the cleanest man on guard mount for orderly, and at many posts the requirement of polished cartridges is considered necessary as an appendix to the cleanliness of accoutrements, as also a highly polished surface to the arms. I would most respectfully ask for your judgment and opinion as to the proper care of arms, taking into consideration the express directions of the Hon. Secretary of War, as laid down in the Revised Regulations of the Army, paragraphs 104 and 105, 1861 and 1863, as also the action of certain inspectors-general, in having cartridges charged to soldiers for rendering them (in their opinion and judgment) unserviceable by polishing.

FORT DODGE, KS., Oct. 25, 1873.

As the best answer to the inquiries of our correspondent, we quote from Wingate's Manual for Rifle Practice the following instructions for cleaning arms, pp. 18, 19, 20, and 21, paragraphs 27-43, inclusive:

Wipe every part with an oiled rag, and then a dry one; if any part of the interior shows rust, put a drop of oil on the point or end of a piece of soft wood; rub out the rust, clean and wipe the surface dry; then rub every part with a slightly oiled rag.

28. No emery nor powder of any kind should be used, to avoid the danger of removing the case-hardening and thus increasing the liability to rust.

29. In remounting the lock, the threads of the screws, the pins, and the locking-lever should be oiled before being replaced.

30. Only a small quantity of oil should be used, as too much is likely to clog the parts.

31. When the men are provided with the brush issued with some rifles, it should always be used to clean out the barrel, dipping it in hot water or still better in benzine, and afterwards drying and oiling the barrel as hereinafter prescribed. In other cases the following method will be followed.

32. Hold the rifle muzzle-downward at a convenient angle, with the breech-block open, and pour hot water through the barrel so as to loosen the dirt or fouling left by the powder, and being careful to avoid wetting the breech-block or lock.

33. Place a wet rag (woollen if possible) upon the cleaning rod, being careful to see that its head is equally covered all around, press it into the bore first from the muzzle, and (as the ramrod is shorter than the barrel) afterwards from the chamber, and rub it up and down until the barrel is clean, being careful not to mar the corners of the chamber by the shoulder of the ramrod.

34. Wipe the barrel well out with a rag or tow as before until it is perfectly dry, and afterwards with an oiled rag. The men should be cautioned that if the barrel be not perfectly dry, it will rust, no matter how much oil is afterwards applied. For this reason benzine is preferable to water in cleaning, and warm water to cold. After oiling, the rifle should be allowed to stand for a time and then can fully wiped.

35. Wipe the surface of the hammer-breech block, firing pin, etc., with a slightly oiled rag.

36. Close the breech-block, let down the hammer, and replace the tompon.

37. No attempt should be made to drag a ramrod out of the barrel by extreme force when it sticks fast, as the bore is almost certain to be injured by so doing. When such a case occurs it should be removed by an armorer.

38. After firing, the bore should always be wiped out as soon as practicable, until both clean and dry, and then rubbed with a rag moistened with oil. If it is found necessary to take out the breech-block and hammer, first turn out the screw which holds the button, cock the hammer and close the breech-block, remove the breech-block pin without battering it, and then remove the breech-block. Afterwards let down the hammer and take out the hammer-pin.

39. In cleaning the barrel, unless the regulation brush can be obtained, a wooden "wiping stick" should be used whenever practicable. A metal rod, unless particular care is taken to see that its head is entirely enveloped in the cleaning rag, is apt to injure the grooves of the rifling.

40. Care should also be taken to prevent water from penetrating between the wood and the metal of the piece. This can be guarded against by rubbing in a little beeswax, and the necessity of taking the barrel from the stock, which is objectionable, may thus be avoided.

41. The lock should be free from rust and dirt, and slightly oiled. Sewing-machine or watchmakers' oil is commonly used upon a rifle. Sweet oil should be rejected, as likely to "gum."

42. For the mountings, and all iron and steel parts,

*The Canadians have found "Rangoon oil" such a valuable preservative of rust as to cause it to be officially recommended and furnished to their militia.

use a rag moistened with the oil of emery, or emery cloth may be used when rust has set in; but care must be used not to rub off the browning or case-hardening by so doing. For brass use rotten-stone moistened with vinegar or water, and avoid oil or grease. Use a hard brush or a piece of soft pine, cedar, or crocus-cloth. Remove dirt from the screw-holes by screwing a piece of soft wood into them. Wipe clean with a linen rag, and leave the parts slightly oiled. In cleaning the arms, the aim should be to preserve the qualities essential to service, rather than to obtain a bright polish. Burnishing the barrel (or other parts) should be strictly avoided, as it tends to crook the barrel and also to destroy the uniformity of the exterior finish of the arm.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH FRY.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Baltimore Gazette* contributes the following brief account of Captain Joseph Fry, the late commander of the *Virginus*:

From a few months' intimate acquaintance with him during our war, I gathered from his lips a few incidents of his life. He was born in Florida, and served many years in the U. S. Navy; from the latter he resigned to join the Confederacy, in which he held the rank of lieutenant. As such he served on the *Mississippi*, first under the command and on the flag-ship of Commodore Hollins at New Orleans. After the fall of that city he had command of a small gun-boat which the Federal fleet drove into one of the smaller Western rivers—the White, I think—and finding it impossible to save her, he burned his boat, landed his battery on a bluff, and opened a fire that sunk one of his pursuers, and drove the remainder off. The fleet, however, returned, and throwing a body of some 500 marines in his rear; while some four or five steamers opened on his front, made it hot for his two guns and sixty or seventy men. Fighting all around to the bitter end, Fry never did surrender, and the first knowledge he had of the battle's finish was when restored to consciousness in a Federal hospital, when he found himself severely wounded in the shoulder, and learned that his little band had been nearly all killed or wounded before the bluff was taken. After he was exchanged and was assigned to duty, his wound breaking out afresh, compelled him reluctantly to yield regular service, and, still suffering with his shoulder and a semi-paralyzed arm, he undertook the lighter duty of commanding a Confederate steamer, the *Eugenie*, in the blockade running. In this steamer, one of the few sailing regularly under the Confederate flag, Captain Fry proved himself a skilful, daring commander, and was uniformly successful. On one occasion the *Eugenie*, loaded with gunpowder, grounded outside of Fort Fisher under the guns of the blockading squadron, and when, in view of the heavy cannonade which was opened upon her, he was commanded from the fort, from Wilmington, and finally from Richmond, to abandon his boat and save his crew from what was considered the inevitable explosion, Fry positively refused to do so; stood by his ship, lightened her, got a good tide, carried her safely in—a measure of cool gallantry not easily surpassed, as he was utterly defenseless, carrying no armament. He simply stood the chance of being blown up without the excitement of battle to sustain his nerve, while on the other hand the adjacent coast made escape easy.

From this service Fry was withdrawn to superintend the construction of torpedoes, and for that purpose went to Scotland, where the closing of the ports rendered his efforts fruitless. After the war I heard of him in New Orleans, working on some patents for saving ships and curing timber, and very poor. Of his connection with the Cubans I know nothing, and can only suppose his poverty and natural love of adventure combined to bring about his murder. Personally, he was a tall, well-made, handsome man, with the most mesmeric eyes I have ever seen, having great power of control, both over himself and others. His mind was remarkably good and well cultivated. He was a deep reader and thinker, fond of speculating on abstruse subjects, and apt to be led by his genius to extreme views. In disposition he was sweet, but firm tempered; a true friend and a strong enemy, not given, perhaps, to a large circle, but very sociable and conversable with his intimates, and withal, as modest as brave.

This slight sketch of the man may serve to throw some light on his surrender. As an old naval officer having personal experience of the laws of blockade, he both knew the legal limits of his liability if captured and trusted the flag he bore for protection from all other penalties. Had the *Virginus* been a Cuban privateer, as alleged, as such she would have carried a battery, and Captain Fry would never have surrendered without resistance. Had he borne a Cuban commission, three or four shots over his steamer, within reach almost of Jamaica's coast, would never have brought him to. The truth must be he commanded an American steamer, and believed that the flag under which he had so long served, which had conquered him, could and would insure him at least civilized treatment.

ELEVENTH INFANTRY.—The returns furnished our representative at the inspection of this command, were erroneous and as the number present was just 100 less than we gave at the time, we publish the following returns, kindly furnished by Major Dickel, the Second brigade inspector:

	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Field, staff, and non-commissioned staff...	9	81	90
Band.....	39	—	39
Company A.....	35	17	52
Company B.....	43	16	59
Company C.....	41	13	54
Company D.....	40	12	52
Company E.....	25	23	48
Company F.....	26	6	32
Company H.....	42	15	57
Company I.....	36	20	56
Company K.....	23	10	33
Total.....	360	139	499

—We would good naturedly inquire why Mr. Arbuckle, the famous cornetist of the Twenty-second band, wears the epaulettes of a field officer? Gentlemen, put on all the gold lace you desire; but, as a military band, don't assume any thing the Regulations do not prescribe as the badge of military rank.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

CUBA AND THE NATIONAL GUARD.—There is just a remote chance of the National Guard of the several States being called on to volunteer. The New York State troops, unlike their comrades "way over in New Jersey," are not over anxious to volunteer, and the offer of the Third New Jersey regiment savors too strongly of bombast. The commander of the Third has used the name of his regiment on other occasions in a similar way. It appears, however, that enthusiastic New Jersey is bound to make a strong show in the matter, and according to reports Adjutant-General Stryker has, in addition to the Third regiment, received offers from a number of officers and men of the militia regiments to serve in Cuba. Among them the Second and Seventh regiments, Fourth battalion, a company from Newark, and a number of officers in Paterson, who promise a regiment from that city. Company A, Fourth regiment, it is reported, has also tendered its services; and last, but not least, a colored company in Jersey City has offered its services. Thus far New York State troops have been merely lookers on; though, as one of the Cuban members of the Seventh is reported as one of the arrested in Havana, there is no telling what effect this will have in this command. The parade of the Seventh on Tuesday in full winter attire looked war-like, it is true, and doubtless added to the war-like feelings of the people. But to quiet the fears of an excited populace, we will state that the Seventh's mission was entirely peaceful, and that the parade was in celebration of the almost forgotten day when the "British ran away," and likewise to show the Mayor and the Military Committee of the Board of Aldermen the real strength of one of New York's best commands.

WINGATE'S MANUAL.—The *Forest and Stream*, in noticing the second edition of Wingate's Manual, says: "This most excellent work is fortunate in having for its compiler Captain Wingate, who, as secretary of the National Rifle Association, and as one of the original founders of Creedmoor, not only thoroughly understands the theory of the rifle, but happens to be at the same time one of the best of its practical exponents, as may be readily seen from the accounts of the Creedmoor matches, published by the *Forest and Stream*, where the author's name is always to be found among the best of our marksmen. The book has a double end in view of not only teaching the rifleman the theoretical reasons for every step taken, but to show him in the simplest language how to practically carry such lessons as are given in the Manual, into use on the rifle range. A great many people desirous of being proficient in any manly exercise, are exceedingly dubious as to their faculty of acquiring any small amount of skill from reading books. 'How to learn French without a master,' involving the purchase of a book, may perhaps give some very slight smattering of the true Parisian accent; but 'How to learn to swim or fence without a master,' very naturally causes people to be quite skeptical, even after the most diligent course of study as to their capabilities of taking to the water or handling a foil. Rifle shooting is, however, an art which combines intimately both theory and practice, and it is surprising how little of each is requisite to convert a 'muff,' a person who never could even touch a barn door with a bullet, into quite a fair marksman. How and where to get exactly such instruction is to be found then in this Manual. From actual experience, Mr. Wingate having taught many of the National Guards how to shoot, he is enabled to impart information in the most thorough and natural manner. As we are constantly in receipt of letters from correspondents not only in regard to the absolute manual of the rifle, but as to the proper laying out of rifle ranges, with questions as to construction of butts, etc., and all these subjects are treated in an exhaustive way by Captain Wingate, we know of no better book to recommend them to than this Manual of Rifle Practice. It is not to be supposed that the book under review is entirely devoted to the instruction of the soldier. It will be found of practical use to every sportsman and marksman. Questions of trajectory, theories of projectiles, sighting, judgment of distances, effects of wind, suggestions to marksmen, and all information as to how a rifle range is to be built, are given by Captain Wingate. Of no less importance are the full details in regard to the cautionary measures to be used on a range to prevent accidents, found in the Manual. Within a small and handy volume, the author has happily condensed all that a marksman wants to know in regard to breech-loading rifles and rifle practice." The second edition of the Manual which is here referred to is already exhausted, and a third is in press.

THE MILITIA APPROPRIATION.—General A. B. Dyer, U. S. Army, in his forthcoming annual report, recommends that one million dollars be appropriated by the Government towards arming, equipping, and maintaining the militia. The amount now employed for this purpose is two hundred thousand dollars, or the same amount New York State appropriates for the support of its National Guard. In other words, the Government devotes an amount toward the support of the entire militia of the country, being equal to that paid by our State alone for similar purposes. We trust the Government will adopt this recommendation of General Dyer, and its mere suggestion shows that the Regular service, and particularly its leading officers, begin to appreciate the value of a militia.

One million dollars judiciously distributed among the different States would give additional impetus to the volunteer militia of the country, and to this should be added the passage of a general law by Congress forcing all States to organize a militia proportionate to their population. All the States have their general headquarters, and in some instances are divided into military districts, representing, on paper, a certain number of troops. Yet beyond this necessary military semblance not one-third of the States have any representative organized militia force. It seems therefore unfair that these States should receive any large amount of the Government appropriation for maintaining a militia not really in existence. We cannot at this time call to mind the method of distributing the Government appropriation; but under existing circumstances the best plan for the Government to follow would be to help those States which help themselves by properly organizing a militia, and annually devoting a certain proportion of the State funds in aiding its maintenance.

EVACUATION DAY.—The ninetieth anniversary of the evacuation of New York by the British was quietly observed on Tuesday last, the 25th inst. The day was auspicious, but the military display, very naturally, was meagre compared with former celebrations of the day. Events of more recent date and of prominence have come upon us so rapidly since our own war at home, that the people have almost forgotten so minor a military movement as the evacuation of the great metropolis almost a century ago. The veterans of 1812 were offered the usual hospitality of the Sixth Infantry at its armory, and the flag was hoisted by the veterans' adopted son, Adjutant Warner, on the old fort at the Central Park, at sunrise. There was the customary parade of innumerable target companies, which organizations, by the way, are ever ready to celebrate any event, from the birth of St. Patrick to the election of their favorite candidate to municipal office. The main attraction of the day, however, aside from the patriotic display of flags, was the parade of the Seventh regiment in full winter attire, and its review at the City Hall park by the city authorities. This parade was the means of attracting an immense concourse of people, and was indeed a handsome recognition of the "day we celebrate."

DISBANDMENT AND REORGANIZATION.—The mutinous company of the Thirteenth Infantry, Company G, has not been transferred to the Twenty-third, as it desired, but the subjoined order, disbanding the company, is doubtless the first step towards its reconstruction as a company for that command:

—HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, N. G. S. N. Y.,
BROOKLYN, November 20, 1873.

General Orders No. 7.

The following extract from Special Orders No. 125, general headquarters S. N. Y., dated Adjutant-General's Office, November 18, 1873, is hereby published for the information of this command:

"Company G of the Thirteenth regiment Infantry, having neglected the duties devolving upon its members, and having evinced a spirit of insubordination greatly to the prejudice of good order and military discipline—is upon the recommendation of the division commander—hereby disbanded."

"First Lieutenant E. H. Soper, of said company, is hereby rendered supernumerary, but will not be relieved from accountability until he shall have turned over to the officer authorized to receive the same, all public property in his possession or for which he may be responsible, and received certificate of non-indebtedness from the proper State officers."

By order of Major-General Woodward.
INA L. BEER, Assistant Adjutant-General.
Official: ROBERT B. WOODWARD, Lieutenant-Colonel and C. S.

The disbandment of this company is in its nature almost unprecedented, as it disbands the command as a mutinous organization, allowing the members no credit for any of the time they may have served in the National Guard. Company G numbered, we think, some sixty active members, one half of whom at least were veterans, and entitled on application to their discharge. This disbandment, however, cancels all this, and the members are set adrift without obtaining the least recognition or credit for their service to the State. This disbandment at first strikes one as a victory for the company, but we fear the members will find in the end they have made a grave mistake. It seems that the company had well laid plans for freeing themselves from any further service in the Thirteenth regiment, and all along had refused to entertain any propositions emanating from regimental and division headquarters; in fact, since the refusal of the transfer to the Twenty-third, the members have taken every means to accomplish their ends, and would have succeeded had not this disbandment order collapsed the scheme. It appears that measures had been taken to have the majority of the members, whose time was not yet served, remove to New York city and there join some organization of the First Division. Then under the last paragraph of section 13, of the Military Code, the members would of course be dropped from the roll, and they would then demand a certificate of their time served. Meanwhile the veterans, some twenty-five in number, were to claim their discharges and when they were granted they were to form the nucleus of a new company for the Twenty-third. The members who had temporarily moved to New York were then to return again to Brooklyn, under the same section of the law, and join the new company. This, in brief, is the whole story, but the order for disbandment has been too much for the company,

and casts to the winds all the schemes of the lawyers who claimed membership in the late Brooklyn City Guard.

FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—The Forty-seventh intend giving a drill and review at its armory on the 17th of December, to be followed by what the Burghers term "a soiree dansante." These informal entertainments proved so attractive last winter that it has been deemed advisable to revive them at an early date during the present drill season. Lieutenant Hendrickson, of Company G, has resigned, and Captain Lamb, we understand, has signified his intention to retire as soon as a successor can be determined upon. The company has tendered the captaincy to Captain Eugene G. Judd, of the First regiment, and we trust he will accept. The Forty-seventh is a live organization; the members of Company G stand among the best in the regiment, and need only an active commandant to place the company among the best in the regiment in point of numbers—financially, it is so now. Colonel Austen signifies his intention of spending a day at Creedmoor as soon as the weather permits in the spring. He is anxious to go into camp, but entertains fears that he could not secure the attendance of a sufficient number to make it an assured success.

GILMORE'S TWENTY-SECOND BAND.—On Saturday evening the new band of the Twenty-second gave the first of a series of concerts at the regimental armory. These concerts are offered at popular prices of admission, and, judging from the opening of the series, will doubtless become as famous as the summer concerts of Thomas's orchestra. The spacious armory of the regiment was filled with an exceptionally select assemblage, the galleries, main floor, and every portion of the building being occupied. The handsomely uniformed band occupied a raised platform in the centre of the main drill-room, while on either side of the room was tri-colored muslin covered with gold stars, and in all directions were hung streamers and many other decorations, the barn-like looking interior presenting altogether an unusually attractive appearance. The programme offered was exceedingly choice, and the performance of the sixty-five musicians (exclusive of soloists) rarely, if ever, equalled by any military band in the country. Mr. Gilmore in a few weeks has accomplished what other bands have labored for for years without success. He has given us for the first time a perfectly harmonious military band, whose time and musical qualifications almost equal any of the foreign bands which have visited the United States. The greater portion of this new band is composed of the best musical talent of the country, and, in this respect at least, is unlike many of the foreign bands, who rarely boast of over a dozen musical celebrities. Mr. Gilmore has among the members of his band the unrivalled cornet player, M. Arbuckle, late of Bos on, who has no equal on his instrument on the continent; the eminent saxophone player, E. A. Lefebvre, late of Philadelphia; and over sixty of the most prominent instrumentalists of New York, including Stedler, solo flute; Gortelmeyer, solo oboe; Kegel and Wendelschafer, solo clarinets; Kochkeller, solo soprano clarinet; Boleschka, solo soprano cornet; Dietz, solo trumpet; Gewalt, solo horn; Letsch, solo baritone; Saul, solo trombone; Friedrich, solo fagotti; Listmann, solo tuba.

One of the objects of the formation of this band is to present to the American public a band that shall not only equal but excel the French, German, and English bands which attracted so much attention on the occasion of their visit to this country last year; and it may be said without egotism that no band in Europe has in its ranks so many distinguished musicians as the new band of the Twenty-second regiment; and with the encouragement it deserves it will excel the best efforts of the old world.

Mr. Gilmore has had any amount of petty jealousies to encounter from rival musical leaders, and all sorts of conjectures have been offered regarding the eventual success of his enterprise. All this, of course, was expected; but with such music as this band has thus far offered, he has little to fear, and is bound to obtain the appreciation he so well merits.

The Twenty-second regiment also comes in for any amount of jealous croakings, and long before the band was organized there were any quantity of conjectures regarding the financial ability of the regiment to maintain such a band for any length of time. The officers of the regiment perhaps understand this matter better than these croakers, and they do not appear in the least concerned regarding their financial ability, or the eventual success of the band; nor have we, if Mr. Gilmore continues to present the public with music equal to that thus far offered. The regiment, we learn, is not called on to contribute to sustain this band, the officers having taken the whole responsibility on themselves.

The famous Ninth regiment band of one hundred instruments created a great *furor* on parade, and was undoubtedly the means of filling the ranks of the regiment to a large extent, aside from the popularity of the wealthy commander of the regiment. The new band of the Twenty-second at the head of the regiment will likewise numerically strengthen the regiment to no little degree, and its musical influence is already felt throughout the entire command. The Ninth's band had strength and volume of sound, but in organization and general composition was no comparison to the band just formed by Mr. Gilmore for the Twenty-second regiment. This band will have one good effect at least; it will be the means of raising the standard of military music, which for a

long time past has been at a very low ebb, and if it accomplishes this, it will more than compensate for the trouble and expense of its organization. The regiment does not seem to share the fears of the majority in regard to the possibility of preserving the composition of the band on occasions of general parade, as it claims to be able to offer inducements enough to keep its musicians intact as a band, and it is a well known fact that musicians, like most people, will stay or go where they get the most pay.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE THIRTEENTH AND FORTY-SEVENTH.—Where there are any evident advantages to be derived by a mutual consolidation in the National Guard it really becomes a portion of the duty devolving upon a military journal to advocate it on general terms; but we consider that it becomes a special charge to us when outside of the arguments which are daily advanced we meet members of regiments who openly advocate consolidation, as is evidenced in conversation with the rank and file of the Thirteenth and Forty-seventh regiments. We favor this consolidation for the following reasons: First, the rank and file to some extent desire it; second, the majority of the officers seem to favor it; third, all the large companies advocate it; and fourth, the change of uniform would involve no expense. Aside from this it is important that our regiments should go into camp, which, excepting the Seventh New York, is rendered impracticable, owing to the fact that not over one-half of a command can arrange to get away at one time, and with the regiments thus cut down the expense involved is so great, and the members present so small, that commanding officers do not care to expose the weakness of their commands. The Thirteenth and Forty-seventh are composed, in the main, of men moving in the same ranks of life, and by a union would have infused into them a degree of life which has long been needed in the Thirteenth. It would perhaps be well for the field officers of the Thirteenth and Forty-seventh regiments to confer together and recommend a feasible plan of union to the Adjutant-General.

THE FIRST REGIMENT.—This regiment, or battalion as it is now termed, showed a decided falling off at its last inspection, and demonstrates the error of judgment in allowing these weak organizations to drag out a miserable existence. A large number of the members desire to attach themselves to the Twelfth. Captain Conover has left and gone to the Forty-seventh. Captain Judd, the energetic commander of Company H, has been tendered the captaincy of Company C, in the same regiment. Is there any doubt that if the First regiment was merged in the Twelfth, with its Brooklyn members attached to the Forty-seventh, it would not be more effective than at present.

TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.—The eleventh annual concert of this command will take place at the new regimental armory, Clermont avenue, Brooklyn, on December 16. By this time the various companies will have their respective rooms furnished. These annual entertainments of the Twenty-third are exceedingly popular in Brooklyn, and always attract the best portion of its citizens. The band on this occasion will be increased to sixty pieces, and it is expected this concert will in many respects excel any previous attempt of the regiment.

At the recent competition in Company A, of this regiment, at Creedmoor, for the "Kellogg" badge presented to the company by S. I. Kellogg, Esq., Sergeant A. C. Bunce came off victorious by a score of 12 at 300 and 600 yards. The score was surprisingly low for the winner, but the day was exceedingly unpropitious for shooting. In consequence of the high winds which prevailed throughout the match. This is the first time these two ranges have been attempted in a match, and the Twenty-third boys found their efforts to make a respectable score futile by reason of the wind, and the unusual ranges. There were twenty-five competitors at this first match, and the badge is to become the property of the man who wins it three times. The badge is gold, handsome in design, and valued at about \$100.

SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This command, Colonel Clark, on Tuesday paraded in celebration of Evacuation Day. The regiment, in overcoats and white cross belts, presented a decidedly soldierly appearance, and paraded an unusual strength of twenty-four files. No one, be they ever so prejudiced, could look upon the steady and solid column as it swept from curb to curb down Broadway without exciting a feeling of admiration, and saying—well, after all, the Seventh is the only regiment when you come to make direct comparison. There were the numbers in the first instance; then came the steadiness, good alignment, and general *esprit de corps* of the regiment, seldom, if ever, witnessed in any of our National Guard commands, at least, and now-a-days seldom exhibited in our rapidly recruited Regular service. The Seventh, whatever it may have lost in other respects, certainly has well maintained its standard in this regard, and we say this in no disrespect to any of the many other first class organizations in this vicinity. One of the marked military qualifications of the Seventh is its promptitude, as in this instance the regiment was at the Hall some ten minutes before the appointed time of the review—not ten minutes or more after the time announced, as too frequently is the case in the movements of our National Guard.

After marching down Broadway the regiment entered the Park plaza in columns of fours, the field and staff dismounted and the regiment was formed to be reviewed by his Honor Mayor Havemeyer, accompanied by others of the municipal

authorities. The review was fully up to the good standard of the regiment, and called forth the admiration of the thousands who witnessed it. To pass in review the regiment, from necessity, was forced to close its column on mass, then to take distances. This it did without confusion, and in good style executed a handsome passage. At the close of the review the regimental commander ordered an "IN PLACE," and immediately thereafter interviewed the mayor and the military committee of the Board of Aldermen—the principal topic, we presume, being that the regiment obtain *that* armory "on the square" called Hamilton, and similar warlike questions. But seriously the regiment had a very fair opportunity to exhibit its efficiency, and there was no one present but must have acknowledged its supremacy as a National Guard organization. We might offer a few military criticisms, but we forbear on account of the day.

CREEDMOOR.—The season at Creedmoor virtually closed on Thanksgiving Day, when a large number of enthusiastic marksmen visited the range, including two companies of the Seventy-ninth Infantry, Captains Ross and Lindsey, and one company of the Twenty-third. The Amateur Club was also well represented, and the day was highly enjoyed, despite the cold weather. On Saturday, November 29, the Range Committee of the N. R. A. and a delegation of the directors will inspect the range preparatory to dismantling and closing it for the winter season. Since the fall meetings all the "Hill" or raised butts have been removed and replaced by "Scoble" or sunken butts. There is now, therefore, one continuous line of sunken butts the whole length of the embankment. The Range Committee, in consequence of the general unsafe condition of the raised butts, have been forced to this measure, and deemed it advisable to push the work to completion before the winter fairly sets in. The Creedmoor Century Hotel, Captain Bruer, proprietor, still offers the hospitality of the old farm-house to visitors, but will close its doors on the first of December.

The challenge of the Irish team, the winners of the Elio shield, published in a recent issue of the *Herald*, to compete with a similar number of American marksmen, has not as yet been brought officially before the Board of Directors of the N. R. A.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

—A NUMBER of the expert marksmen of the N. R. A. have recently become officers in several organizations of the National Guard.

—THE indorsement on the discharge granted Captain Williams, of Company G, Thirteenth, by General Headquarters, is anything but acceptable to a retiring officer.

—THE Massachusetts Volunteer Militia are being paid for their services at the recent encampment. The paymasters are compelled to give bonds of \$10,000 for the faithful performance of their duties.

—THE right wing of the Twelfth Infantry held a battalion drill at the arsenal on the evening of Evacuation Day. It was not public. A similar drill will be held on the evening of December 1.

—ONE of the heavy companies of the Fifth Infantry while at drill recently caused the ceiling of the main drill room of the armory to fall. This will doubtless necessitate a suspension of drills for the present in this regiment. The solid tramp of the Fifth, it seems, is too much for the Andy Garvey walls.

—THE Forty-seventh Board of Officers recently laid on the table the resolution to abolish the use of all spirituous liquors in the regimental armory. It will be revived at the next meeting, however, and urged to a passage. We trust all organizations of the National Guard will view this matter seriously, and act accordingly. The good results of the passage of a resolution of this nature, and its enforcement, cannot be over estimated.

—CAPTAIN WILLIAM J. HARDING, the capable commander of Company B, Twenty-second Infantry, on Tuesday last united his fortunes with those of Miss Anna Adelia Chamberlain, late of Brownsville, Texas. We presume this is one of the unions the gallant captain fought for in the late war, and we congratulate him on his victory, and trust both may fully realize the peaceful bliss of a happy union.

—SEVERAL of the organizations of New Jersey have volunteered for the Cuban war before the war is actually declared. The Third and Colonel J. Madison Drake are fairly spoiling for a fight, particularly as its service was not accepted in the Modoc war. There is no telling what action the New York Seventh, and particularly the First company of that regiment, will take regarding the member reported arrested in Havana. The (stove pipe) Gatling gun may yet be brought into requisition.

—To satisfy inquiring minds, Adjutant-General Cunningham, of Massachusetts, has established a small armory in his office in the way of a cabinet containing a sample of each of the improved models of rifles, which are now on exhibition at General Headquarters. The arms are handsomely nickel plated, and comprise the French Chassepot, Prussian needle-gun, the Martini-Henry (English), Berdan (Russian), Remington, Winchester, Colt (revolving), Starr, Sharpe, Ballard, Maynard, Turner, & Whitney, Joslyn, Roberts, Needham, Gallagher, Snider (English), Spencer and Peabody rifles, and the Browne, Sharpe, Barnside, and other styles of carbines.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. A. C. Buffalo, N. Y.—Your name is on the Louisville list at the Fourth Auditor's office, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. The auditor is now distributing the Sumter prize claims. Apply to him.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE French Assembly has, by a majority of sixty-six, voted to maintain McMahon as president of the Republic for seven years.

THE Mexican government is engaged in the work of re-establishing the navy. General Foster, military commander at Vera Cruz, has been called to the capital to receive orders from the supreme government to purchase four steamers in England for the navy.

AN order has been received at the Portsmouth, England, dock-yard from the Admiralty, directing shipwrights and other apprentices to attend school during the afternoons of certain days of the week, as the engineer students do now. The order will doubtless prove of great benefit to the lads who are affected by it.

MM. GAMBETTA and Jules Favre appeared as witnesses, Nov. 21, in the Bazaine trial. There was a crowded audience, and the testimony was listened to with the deepest attention. M. Favre gave an account of his interview with Bismarck, and declared that the latter told him that he had reason to believe that Marshal Bazaine would not recognize the government of September. The statement caused a profound sensation in the court room.

THE Hague correspondent of the *Independence Belge* writes in reference to the first expedition to Aché: "The disaster has cost us 100,000,000 francs and 400 soldiers. It is certain that the chief command left much to desire (as well under Gen. Kohler as after his death). It was thought that a *coup de main* would be sufficient to take Aché. When it was seen that the natives were prepared for a serious resistance, and fought heroically, it was feared that they might succeed in cutting off the line of retreat from our troops. The order to re-embark was given under the influence of these impressions.

A DESPATCH from London, Nov. 21, states that despatches from Cape Coast Castle report that Col. Feeling, with 400 men, surprised an Ashantee camp, on the 27th of October, near Dunkwa. The savages, who at first took to the brush, subsequently attacked the troops, but after an engagement of three hours were driven off. Their loss in killed and wounded is believed to be large. Five English officers and fifty-two native auxiliaries were wounded. It is claimed that the Ashantees were in full retreat after the fight. A reinforcement of 200 regulars will soon embark for the African coast.

THE steamer *Great Republic* brings to San Francisco the following intelligence from China: The steamer *Zeipka* brought to Hong Kong the news of the seizure of the German vessels *Maria Louise* and *Gazelle*, by a Spanish man-of-war off Sooloo. The vessels were brought to Manila. The crew of the *Gazelle* were liberated. The captain and supercargo of the *Maria Louise* managed to escape, and the Spaniards declare that they will be treated as spies if caught outside the respective consulates. The supercargo claims the protection of the British consul, and the captain that of Germany. The latter states that the vessels were sixteen miles off Sooloo when captured, and that according to law the blockade extends only nine miles; and further that the Spanish authorities had not declared any blockade.

THE London correspondent of the *New York Times* says: A translation has just appeared of Hacklander's *Military Life in Prussia in Time of Peace*. It is, indeed, a delightful book, full of humor and poetry; full of amusing sketches of character, of capital stories of camp and barrack life; full, also, of information, given, as it were, from within, as to the everyday existence of Prussian officers, soldiers and volunteers. Of books about the late war there is still no end, or rather there is a beginning again. Their authors doubtless hope that, after a certain reaction, the interest in the subject is now reviving. In connection with the events of 1870-71, a work by Mr. Sutherland Edwards is announced under the title of "Manners and Customs of Invading Armies, Notes on the German Occupation of France, the Relations between Invaders and Invaded, and the Modern Usages of War." It professes to give information in regard to requisitions, contributions, and forced labor, the levying of fines, the taking of hostages, the general repression of illegitimate warfare, and the bombardment of fortified towns. The appendix reproduces the "Instructions for the Government of the Armies of the United States in the Field," drawn up by Prof. Lieber, submitted to and approved by a committee of officers, and mentioned by President Lincoln.

COMMANDER Harvey, R. N., has returned from Austria, where he was invited to instruct the Austrian officers in the management of the experiments which have been carried out at Pola, Austria. Apropos of this visit, the *Naval and Military Gazette* says: While the use of Greek fire and explosive bullets have been condemned, the use of the torpedo passes unchallenged, although in its application against ships at sea it is far more murderous than any weapon of past times, and offers a strange comment upon the increased civilization of the nineteenth century. As a defence, the torpedo is invaluable and perfectly legitimate, but it is as an offensive weapon at sea that the use of the torpedo appears so cold blooded and merciless. The idea of giving no quarter, even when in the heat of battle, has been thought barbarous, but what can be said of the warfare of the day when such "striking in the dark" is strongly advised as being the system par excellence under which attacks with this arm should be carried out. To say the least, the system is un-English in the extreme, and one which we believe the old Navy of the fighting days would have loathed. Humanity induced our forefathers to give up the use of fire-ships at sea, the last time of their being used, except in an enemy's port, where there was a fair probability of escape for the crew, being in the fight off Toulon in 1744. Of course it will be said that the de-

sired end in the use of the torpedo at sea is the destruction of the material rather than the personnel of the enemy, and this may be true enough; but the question is whether in these days of Geneva conventions and International arbitration we are to allow so many men to perish without putting out a hand to save them.

THE London *Broad Arrow* of September 27 and October 4, says: We pointed out the present position of "the Rule of the Road at Sea," and the unsatisfactory state of things as regards the question itself—the state of the law in England—and the position in which foreign governments have been placed by the explanations, interpretations, and alterations of the law, in defiance of the letter of the Privy Council. The same course has been pursued with the French as with other European Governments, in the hope that when they became better acquainted with the alarming anomalies of the existing "steering and sailing rules," it might lead to some amelioration in the present deplorable destruction both of life and property. But the French Minister declines to interest himself in this question! This is more to be regretted, because the French Government and the Board of Trade were the joint authors of the existing law, and especially as the April number of *Revue Maritime*, which is issued under the authority of the French Minister, says, "That of all the articles in the steering and sailing rules, only one was submitted to serious discussion, and that was in the text different from what was agreed upon." This "foul, unnatural, and cruel loss of life at sea" must be put a stop to, and our hope in this respect is neither in French or English officials until they are compelled by a stronger power than the little world of meddling and muddling officialism to do their duty.

THE chronic difficulty of finding recruits for the British army is just now the topic of discussion in our English exchanges. Of the causes of this difficulty the *Naval Military Gazette* says: Notwithstanding all that has been done of late to improve the condition and prospects of the soldier, a military life seems now almost more repulsive to the great mass of men in the lower classes than it was a generation ago. One cause of this which appears to have escaped general observation, it may not be amiss to point out. Unwelcome although the statement may be to many of our readers, there can be no doubt that the volunteer movement has, to a considerable extent, lowered the social prestige of the regulars. Familiarity breeds contempt, they say, and the British public has, by its numerous corps of citizen soldiers, been now pretty well familiarized with what were formerly regarded as the charming mysteries of military life. A man who has an inkling for a soldier's career may gratify the taste to a certain extent without abandoning the more lucrative pursuits of civil life, and without resigning his personal freedom, by joining a volunteer corps, and thereby, perhaps, commend themselves even more effectually to the good graces of some Mary Anne who "dotes upon the millinery," than if he enlisted in the line and went off whistling "The Girl I Left Behind Me." Of course, however, the main recruiting difficulty is to be sought for in the present state of the labor market. Wages are high, and in consequence good workmen scout the idea of going for a soldier, more especially as the present prosperity of the lower classes has engendered a free and independent spirit, which shrinks from the restraints of military life. Then there can be no doubt that, contrary to the anticipations of mere theorists, the Short Enlistment Act has diminished the number of recruits. Men who would have taken the shilling under the old long service system, which offered them a prospect of a pension on discharge, now decline to enlist for six years, to find themselves at the end of that term cast adrift on the world, having in the interval, to some extent, forgotten the trade to which they were brought up.

A PARTY of Germans, representing the firm of Krupp, visited the Royal Gun Factories at Woolwich, November 5, and witnessed the process of manufacturing heavy ordnance on the Frazer system, as illustrated by the construction of the 38-ton gun, the largest in the British service. It is well known, says the *Naval and Military Gazette*, that the Krupp guns, being made of steel, were for a long while held in very high esteem throughout Europe, being vastly superior to the old-fashioned cast-iron guns; but the plan invented by Mr. Frazer, the deputy assistant superintendent of the Royal Gun Factories, of building up the gun by winding coil upon coil of wrought iron over a thin steel tube, is now acknowledged on all hands to possess advantages in point of reliability and durability over all other systems extant, and it is being gradually adopted by all other civilized nations. The German Government, though slow to part with their favorite but expensive system, have required the construction of guns on the English model, and hence this visit. After witnessing the preliminary stages of puddling the iron and rolling out the bars, the party repaired to the coiling mill, where an immense bar, 234 feet long, was drawn from the elongated furnace and coiled up into shape. The bar was so long that about 40 feet of it projected out across the road at the rear of the building, and, instead of heating this extremity by temporary fires in the roadway, the ordinary furnace was trusted to heat it sufficiently as it was drawn through, and this it was found to accomplish admirably. The next operation was the welding of a similar coil under the 10-ton hammer. In a huge furnace, recently enlarged for this purpose, the coil, a mass of nearly 23 tons, had been heated to a white heat, and thence it was drawn by a pair of tongs nearly as heavy as itself, and placed under the great hammer, where it was thumped and pounded until its seams were well knit up, and the coil took the shape of a solid cylinder. The difficult work was most skillfully performed, and excited exclamations of admiration from the visitors. The subsequent process of twining and finishing the coil, boring and rifling the inner tube, completing the several other parts of the guns, and shrinking the whole together, were also explained.

THE SHIELDED GATLING.

THE English having adopted our Gatling gun, are studying to see how they can make it most effective in actual service; and to meet the objection that the men handling it may be picked off by sharpshooters, they propose to protect it with a shield. The *London Engineer* recently published an illustrated article showing how the mitrailleuse could be thus protected, and giving the credit for the idea to one Herr Sigl. This has waked up Mr. L. W. Broadwell, who writes to that journal from Vienna as follows:

SIR: Your journal of the 10th instant contains an illustrated article on "Shielded Mitrailleuse," which erroneously awards to Herr Sigl the credit of having constructed the "folding shield" which he employs upon the Montigny gun exhibited by him. If there be any merit in the peculiar construction of this shield, and in endeavoring to introduce it in connection with the mitrailleuse, it is due to the undersigned, and not to Herr Sigl, as I shall prove in the following statement of facts: In 1870 the Hungarian Government ordered some Montigny guns from Herr Sigl and ten Gatling guns of me, for comparative trials. The Sigl guns had in the beginning no shield worthy of the name; the front sides and lids of the two axle ammunition boxes were made of steel plates, the intention being to raise the lids to a perpendicular position during action, and thus protect the men engaged in operating the gun. Between the axle boxes and below the axle there was no plating, and consequently the protection was found to be insufficient. The Gatling guns were provided at the beginning with a folding shield of my designing, and consisting of three Bessemer steel plates, three-eighths of an inch thick, and weighing altogether 210 Vienna pounds. The middle plate was rigidly fixed to the gun carriage and pierced for the gun, the other two plates being hinged to the middle one—the lower to lift forward and the top one to fall to the rear—both to the horizontal position—thus forming a seat for two or three men upon the gun when travelling. I enclose a tracing taken from my Austrian patent of April, 1871. I also send you the blue-book containing the drawing and specification of my invention, by which you will readily perceive that it is identical with that employed by Herr Sigl. To test the efficiency of this shield the committee caused it to be fired at with the Austrian musket and regulation charge at the short distance of 100 paces. The plates were severely indented but not pierced. A Gatling gun with the same shield thus tested may now be seen here any day, as it forms part of the military trophy in the Hungarian department of the International Exhibition. A trial was made to test the comparative durability of the two systems of shield during campaign work, Herr Sigl having by this time considerably amplified his design. For this purpose the two guns were travelled over the roughest roads and fields to be found in the vicinity of Vienna, for the greater part of ten days consecutively, the result of which was that Herr Sigl received official instructions to apply my shield to the Montigny guns ordered by the Hungarian Government. Herr Sigl declines to compensate me for the use of my invention, and as it is a well-established fact that in no single case has a foreigner ever succeeded here in recovering damages by legal process from a native or local infringer of his patent, I have not deemed it wise to waste time and money in trying by a suit at law to compel Herr Sigl to that to the doing of which the most limited sense of justice compatible with common honesty ought to be sufficient compulsion.

The London *Naval and Military Gazette* classes the Gatling gun with the torpedo as a weapon too deadly in its effects to be tolerated in these days of Geneva conventions and international arbitration; a condemnation which will not, we imagine, greatly disturb the equanimity of either the inventor of the gun or the Government officials who have adopted it. The modern theory is to make war so deadly to those immediately engaged in it, and so enormously expensive to the nations who provoke it, that they will hesitate before proceeding to extremities long enough to give opportunity for more pacific counsels to prevail. In this point of view even a member of the philanthropic profession of medicine, like Dr. Gatling, cannot be held to have falsified his principles by his practice, because he has invented such an efficient peace-persuader as the mitrailleuse.

THE best "Elastic Truss" in the world is now sold by Pomeroy & Co., 744 Broadway, N. Y., for Three Dollars. Write to them for full particulars.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages FIFTY CENTS each, and the signature and address of the party sending should accompany the notice.]

WETHERILL—HUBBARD.—On Wednesday, November 12, at St. Clement's Church, Philadelphia, Pa., by the Rev. J. Bloomfield Wetherill, Lieutenant ALEXANDER MACOMBE WETHERILL, Sixth Infantry, to Miss MAY HUBBARD, of Chicago.

HARDING—CHAMBERLAIN.—On Tuesday, November 25, 1873, at New Brunswick, N. J., by the Rev. Dr. Woodbridge, WILLIAM J. HARDING, of this city, captain Twenty-second Infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., late captain U. S. Volunteers, to ANSA ADELLA, daughter of the Rev. Hiram Chamberlain, deceased, late of Brownsville, Texas.

RIEMAN—CARLISLE.—At Oakland, Cal., Thursday, November 27, 1873, by the Rev. J. E. Benton, GEORGE B. RIEMAN, late captain's clerk U. S. steamer Narragansett, to Miss IDA E. CARLISLE, of Oakland, Cal.

SILVA—DE VEE.—On Thursday, the 20th inst., at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Newport, Ky., ALBERT SILVA, commissary sergeant, U. S. Army, to Miss SARAH, daughter of Sergeant William De Vere, of Newport Barracks, Ky. No cards.

NEILL—LOONEY.—At the residence of Mrs. Josephine Looney, Louisville, N. Y., on Thursday, November 20, 1873, General THOMAS H. NEILL, U. S. Army, to Miss EVA D., daughter of the late Robert Looney, Esq.

BAIRD—FRATHER.—In Washington, D. C., on the 20th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Addison, G. W. BAIRD, U. S. Navy, to Miss LYLE J. FRATHER. No cards.